

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

21 APRIL 1986

Iran-Iraq War

A military communique cited by Tehran radio reported that over 1,500 Iraqis were killed, 2,600 were wounded, and a large number were captured in fighting in the Al-Faw-Umm Qasr axis from 19 to 20 April. However, an Iraqi military spokesman denied the Iranian claim of a "major" battle in the Al-Faw region, INA reported, and asserted that a "company-level" battle, a "daily occurrence," had taken place and ended in Iraq's favor.

In a related development, Tehran radio broadcast an IRGC announcement 19 April proclaiming the commencement of operations by the IRGC Irregular Warfare Headquarters aimed at extending guerrilla and irregular warfare "deep inside" Iraqi territory and calling for volunteers.

On the Iraqi side, more than 150 Iranians were killed in the central operational sector, according to a communique cited by Voice of the Masses radio 20 April, adding that the Iraqi Air Force had destroyed a bridge southeast of Tabriz. In other action, 436 Iranians were killed and 1,100 wounded from 15 to 17 April in fighting in the East Maysan operational sector, according to a communique carried by Voice of the Masses radio, adding that 67 more Iranians were killed following Iraq's occupation of three peaks in that sector during fighting from 18 to 19 April. Another communique broadcast by the radio reported that the Iraqi Air Force bombed Iran's Khark Island 18 April, setting various facilities ablaze.

In action against shipping, an Iraqi military spokesman revealed that the Iraqi Air Force hit a "large maritime target" off the Iranian coast 20 April, Voice of the Masses radio reported. A WAKH report, citing a "responsible" UAE source, noted that a Turkish oil tanker was hit by a missile from an "unidentified" plane in UAE territorial waters the same day. Earlier, the Dubayy paper *KHALEEJ TIMES* and Tehran radio divulged that a Panamanian-registered oil tanker was attacked 17 April by an "unidentified" aircraft 30 miles off the Das Islands.

In the political sphere, the Iranian foreign minister walked out of the final session of the ministerial meeting of the Nonaligned Movement's Coordinating Bureau in New Delhi 20 April in protest at the "one-sided" proposal forwarded for ending the war, IRNA reported, noting that the proposal did not refer to Iraq as the aggressor in the conflict. In related developments, the Iraqi foreign minister reaffirmed Iraq's willingness to end the war with Iran during a 20 April speech at the Nonaligned meeting, according to INA. Earlier, a member of the Iranian delegation attending the session rejected Iraq's claim that Iran was responsible for prolonging the conflict, IRNA reported.

Libya

Colonel Mu'ammarr al-Qadhafi received a Nonaligned Movement delegation led by the Indian foreign minister, who stressed the movement's condemnation of the U.S. "savage aggression" against Libya, Tripoli television reported 20 April. Al-Qadhafi met with Sudanese Defense Minister Major General 'Uthman 'Abdullah the previous day, the television disclosed, noting that 'Abdullah gave the Libyan leader a message from the Sudanese prime minister offering to place all Sudan's resources in support of Libya. In another development, Tripoli television broadcast an edited recording of an 18 April press conference by Staff Major 'Abd al-Salam Ahmad Jallud, who warned that after the U.S. failure to kill Col Al-Qadhafi in the air attack, the United States has ordered the CIA to assassinate him in a "covert operation." Jallud denied "absurd" reports of differences within the Libyan leadership, contending that there is no possibility of a coup in Libya. He noted that Libya is "reassessing" its policies and stands in the wake of the U.S. raid, disclosing that "intensive contacts" are underway with the Soviet Union and Warsaw Pact. As for Libyan casualties, Jallud stated that 37 people were killed and 93 were wounded in the U.S. raids. Three more people were injured the following day in an explosion attributed to a U.S. delayed-action bomb, according to AFP. "Informed Libyan sources" cited by the UAE's *AL-ITTIHAD* revealed that Libya has transferred the wreckage of an F-111 to the Soviet Union, KUNA noted. The report added that the bodies of the two U.S. pilots were also recovered and are now in Tripoli.

Meanwhile, the Turkish interior minister announced that four Libyans were arrested 19 April in connection with an abortive bomb attack on a U.S. officers' club in Ankara, according to AFP. Although the Libyan People's Bureau in Turkey claimed that Libya had "nothing to do with the incident," sources close to the investigators revealed that a Libyan diplomat is implicated in the attempted bombing, AFP noted.

As for the proposal to discuss the Libyan-U.S. conflict at an emergency Arab summit, an Arab League source cited by WAKH 19 April maintained that "all" Arab countries have agreed to attend an extraordinary summit conference. However, an Arab diplomat quoted by the UAE's *AL-ITTIHAD* stressed that inter-Arab differences will make it difficult to reach a consensus on the summit's agenda, WAKH noted.

Syria

A "security" source cited by Damascus radio admitted to recent "explosions" in Syria that claimed a "number" of casualties among "innocent" citizens, blaming the bombings on Israeli "agents" in Lebanon and asserting that Israeli intelligence planned the operations. In response, "authoritative" Israeli defense sources rejected the Syrian accusations, terming them a "gross lie," according to Jerusalem radio. In related develop-

ments, Radio Monte Carlo reported that an anonymous caller in Beirut claimed that the "17 October Movement for the Liberation of the Syrian People" was responsible for the "operations" inside Syria. Meanwhile, travellers from Damascus spoke of a "state of alert" and an atmosphere of "war" in Syria, according to Voice of Lebanon radio.

Lebanon

Voice of Lebanon reported that over 30 UK and other Western nationals were evacuated to East Beirut from the city's western sector 20 April.

In other developments, the Kuwaiti paper *AL-ANBA*, in an exclusive report 16 April from Beirut, revealed that an "Arab country" has warned Beirut political leaders of an "upcoming aggression" by the U.S. and Israeli military against "several" Lebanese regions. The report alleged that the attack would be carried out under the pretext of "combatting" terrorism and "indicated" that it would "most likely" be launched 10 May.

Israel

In further reportage on the attempted attack on an El Al airliner in London, Israeli "political" sources stated that Israel regards the Abu Nidal group and Mu'ammar al-Qadhafi as "responsible" for the attempt, and asserted that Israel "will not ignore" the incident, the Tel Aviv paper *HADASHOT* reported. In a related development, London PRESS ASSOCIATION revealed that the Jordanian suspect sought in connection with the aborted El Al airliner bombing attempt was arrested in London 18 April.

In another matter, Voice of Lebanon radio, citing "diplomatic" sources, announced that Israel has "recently summoned" Israeli officers studying abroad, and asked them to return to Israel "immediately."

PLO

PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat held "private" talks with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev in Berlin on

the sidelines of the 11th SED Congress, Baghdad Voice of PLO radio reported, adding that the two officials held "identical" views on all issues discussed. In related developments, a Fatah official told the UAE's *AL-ITTIHAD* that a Palestinian "reconciliation conference" will convene in Algiers 1 May, disclosing that Fatah, the DFLP, the PFLP, and the Palestinian Communist Party have already agreed to participate. "Official" Palestinian sources cited by WAKH spoke of a joint Soviet-Algerian "move" to bring about Palestinian national reconciliation, while Radio Monte Carlo cited a report that Soviet mediation attempts have resulted in Syria's consent to "resume dialogue" with 'Arafat.

Iraq

First Deputy Prime Minister Taha Yasin Ramadan returned to Iraq 20 April following a 3-day official visit to the USSR which the Iraqi official termed "successful and fruitful," INA reported. Ramadan announced that an agreement on bilateral cooperation in "various" fields was signed.

Egypt

The People's Assembly voted 19 April to extend the state of emergency for another 2 years, MENA reported, noting that the opposition parties voted against the extension.

DRA-Pakistan

The DRA lodged a "strong" protest with Pakistan 18 April over the latter's alleged air raids 14 and 16 April in Qandahar Province that "destroyed" a "number" of villages and resulted in the deaths of 4 Afghans and the wounding of 50 others, Kabul radio reported. On the other hand, Karachi radio announced that Pakistan "rejected" the DRA's claims, asserting they were proved "baseless" following inquiries. In addition, the radio reported that Pakistan strongly protested to the DRA 20 April over alleged DRA artillery and tank fire 16 April in North Waziristan in which three persons were injured, including two Afghan refugees.

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Karmal Greets Syria's Al-Asad on National Day*LD190213 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0451 GMT 18 Apr 86*

[Text] Kabul, April 17, BAKHTAR — Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the Central Committee of the PDPA and president of the Revolutionary Council of the DRA, has communicated a congratulatory message to Damascus addressed to Hafiz al-Asad, president of the Syrian Arab Republic on the occasion of the independence anniversary of Syria.

The message has expressed confidence that the existing relations and mutual cooperation between the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan and Syrian Arab Republic will be further strengthened day by day.

Such a development of mutual relations, the message adds, is in the interest of common struggles of our people against imperialism, Zionism, and international reaction.

Protest Lodged With Pakistan Over Airspace Intrusion*LD181811 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 18 Apr 86*

[Text] The charge d'affairs of the Pakistan Embassy in Kabul was summoned to the DRA Ministry of Foreign Affairs today at 1200 and a protest note with the following text was handed to him by the director of the First Political Department.

Despite repeated objections and warnings by the DRA the military authorities of Pakistan are continuing their intervention and irresponsible aggression to the sanctity of the DRA.

In accordance with the report of the DRA official authorities the aircraft of the militarist Government of Pakistan entered DRA air space at approximately 1950 on 14 April 1986 and at 0905 on 16 April 1986 and raided Borj Kalay and other regions of Spin Boldak district, Qandahar Province.

As a result of this bombardment a number of villages were destroyed, four inhabitants were martyred and some 50 inhabitants, including men, women and children, were injured.

The DRA Government resolutely condemns this barbarous action of Pakistan's military force, and therefore lodges a strong protest with the militarist authorities of Pakistan and seriously asks the Pakistani authorities to end these inhumane and provocative actions, which only intensify the situation along the borders of the two countries.

Otherwise, the responsibility for undesirable consequences stemming from these actions will rest on the Pakistani authorities.

Rebel Weapons Seized in Paghman Province*LD181741 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1530 GMT 18 Apr 86*

[Text] As a result of successful operations carried out today in the areas around Paghman District by the security forces, a number of counterrevolutionary elements were crushed. The security forces seized 59 antipersonnel mines; 11 surface-to-surface shells [as heard] with 10 warheads; 2 surface-to-air shells [as heard]; 30 Chinese kalashnikovs with 31 magazines and 36 boxes of ammunition; 4 anti-vehicle mines; 7 explosive devices; 70 kg of (?torotone); 1,000 meters of explosive fuse; 90 pen mines with 110 (?fuse lines); 250 (?detonator) capsules; 13 mortar shells; and an amount of assorted ammunition.

Blasts Kill 25 Counterrevolutionaries, 4 Pakistanis*LD200640 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0439 GMT 20 Apr 86*

Text Kabul, April 19 BAKHTAR — Twenty five Afghan counterrevolutionary elements and four Pakistani officials were killed and another forty six were seriously wounded as a result of severe explosion occurred in the Kachagari camp and Camp No 2, reports reaching here say.

Rebels Crushed; Weapons Seized in Khowst*LD201736 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 20 Apr 86*

[Text] Quoting a source in the country's security forces a BAKHTAR correspondent reports that in line with the successful operations by the country's security forces in Khowst district and areas around [name indistinct] district of Paktia Province, the evil nests of the counterrevolutionary elements have been destroyed and heavy and irreparable damage has been inflicted on them.

The report adds that in the recent operations, 300 savage counterrevolutionary element were crushed, and 35 mortars, 6 ZK-1's, 1 recoilless rifle, 28 DShK's, 8 machineguns, 2 rocket launchers, 30 boxes of surface-to-surface missiles, 40 boxes of DShK's shells, 18 ammunition depots, 10 food and clothes depots, 1 radio, a workshop for repairing of weapons, and a large number of assorted weapons were seized by the country's security forces. During these operations 25 DShK's, 24 mortars, 12 ZK-1, 38 cars, [number indistinct] ammunition depots, and 150 enemy hideouts were destroyed.

According to another report from Shakar Darreh District, as a result of successful operations by the country's security forces in the areas around that district, a surface-to-surface missile pad with 24 shells, [number indistinct] DShK's, 1 mortar, 2 [name indistinct] guns, 1 box of ammunition, a number of assorted weapons, and 5 enemy hideouts were destroyed.

Pakistan Reaffirms Peaceful Aim of Nuclear Program
BK191122 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT
 19 Apr 86

[Text] Pakistan has once again categorically told India that its nuclear program was absolutely for peaceful purposes and that Pakistan has neither the intention nor the resources and capability for nuclear weapon program.

This reiteration was made by Foreign Secretary Mr Niaz A. Naik during his talks with his Indian counterpart, Mr Venkateswaran, in New Delhi yesterday. The question was raised in the context of discussion on the understanding reached between President Mohammad Ziaul Haq and the Indian prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, on the 17th of December last that neither side would attack each other's nuclear installations. Draft of the agreement to this effect was almost ready.

The foreign secretary said to demonstrate its seriousness Pakistan had made a number of proposals at international, regional, and bilateral levels to achieve the objective of keeping South Asia free of nuclear weapons. He wondered why the question was still raised in India that there is concern that Pakistan's program is not entirely for peaceful purposes. Strongly refuting the allegation, the foreign secretary said this highly organized campaign was just to malign Pakistan.

The foreign secretary said both sides agreed that mutual dialogue must continue and that the momentum of progress in normalization process which had slowed in recent past must be restored. Both sides agreed to propose possible dates shortly for the meetings for subcommissions in New Delhi and a joint commission meeting in Islamabad.

The two sides are also in the process of negotiating mutually convenient date for the second round of talks between the two defense secretaries to further take up their discussions (?) on Siachen Glacier. They accepted to meet in the second half of next month.

19 Killed by Police Fire in Bihar State 19 Apr
BK211615 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT
 21 Apr 86

[Text] In Bihar, 19 people were killed and several others injured when police opened fire to disperse a violent mob which attacked policemen and the local police station at Arwal in Gaya District on Saturday [19 April].

Giving details of the incident, the state home commissioner, Mr B.K. Singh, and the director general [DG] of police, Mr S.B. Sahai, told newsmen in Patna today that 11 of the victims died on the spot and others succumbed to injuries later. The DG police said that a group of people with firearms and other weapons tried to grab a piece of land illegally.

Despite best efforts the mob refused to disperse and turned violent and the police had to open fire. Nineteen policemen and officers were injured, 44 persons were arrested following the incident.

Further Reportage on Nonaligned Ministers Meeting

Delegation Leaves for Tripoli, New York
BK200805 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0730 GMT
 20 Apr 86

[Text] The six-member ministerial delegation of the nonaligned countries left New Delhi this morning for Tripoli to express the movement's solidarity with Libya. It is being led by the external affairs minister, Mr B.R. Bhagat. The other members of the team include the foreign ministers of Yugoslavia, Ghana, Congo, Senegal, and Cuba.

Before emplaning, Mr Bhagat told All India Radio correspondent that the delegation will meet Colonel al-Qadhafi and express the total solidarity of the Nonaligned Movement in its hour of crisis. The same team will also visit New York and the secretary general of the United Nations and also the president of the Security Council to express the great concern of the Nonaligned Movement on the unprovoked aggression of the United States on Libya. Mr Bhagat said he will request the secretary general to take steps so that there is no further escalation of the conflict and peace and stability is restored in the Mediterranean region.

No Agreement on Iran-Iraq War
BK181310 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT
 18 Apr 86

[Text] The political committee of the Nonaligned Coordinating Bureau has not been able to reach an agreement relating to the Iran-Iraq war. It has referred the issue to the plenary. As chairman of the movement, India has been asked to hold discussions with other delegations. The external affairs minister already had meetings with the foreign ministers of Iran and Iraq. He will also be meeting the heads of delegations of Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Kuwait, Qatar, PLO, and Yugoslavia.

Further on 18 Apr Proceedings
BK190442 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT
 19 Apr 86

[Text] There was near unanimity among the leaders of various delegations at the Coordinating Bureau meeting of nonaligned countries in New Delhi in solving the political and economic problems facing the developing nations. During the last night session which went into the early hours today, speakers reiterated their support to the initiatives taken by the Nonaligned Movement to solve problems like disarmament, terrorism, and an equitable international economic order.

Barring the leader of the Chad delegation, all others expressed their solidarity with the government and people of Libya. They condemned the U.S. aggression against Libya. However, the leader of the Chad delegation said his country has been facing aggression from Libya for a long time. Most of the leaders of African delegations highlighted the problems of the African Continent. They strongly criticized the illegal regime of South Africa and its apartheid policy.

The leader of the Bangladesh delegation made a strong plea for declaring the Indian Ocean a zone of peace. He also wanted the convening of the committee on the Indian Ocean in Colombo at the earliest.

The Gambian foreign minister said his country opposes the use of force for settling any conflict between nations. The foreign minister of Congo demanded the release of all political prisoners in South Africa, particularly Mr Nelson Mandela. The leader of the Cameroon delegation said the Nonaligned Movement should take practical decisions and chalk out pragmatic plans of action. The head of the Mexican delegation wanted an end to the imperialist designs in the Latin American countries.

Others who addressed the late night plenary session were the representatives of Ecuador, Mali, Mozambique, and Somalia, and the leaders of the African National Congress, the Afro-Asian People's Solidarity Organization, and the Socialist Party of Puerto Rico.

19 Apr Session

BK190932 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 19 Apr 86

Addressing the plenary session of the Coordinating Bureau of Nonaligned Countries in New Delhi today, the foreign minister of Libya, Mr Kamal Hasan al-Mansur charged the United States with indulging in state terrorism in a bid to destabilize small nations. He also alleged that the United States is trying to hinder and obstruct the growth of the Nonaligned Movement.

The foreign minister of Angola, Alfonso Van Dunem, addressing the delegates, called for immediate efforts to end apartheid and liberate South Africa and Namibia. Referring to the recent U.S. attacks on Libya, Mr Dunem demanded compensation to the victims.

The Suriname foreign minister, Mr Hendrik Herrenberg, warned the nonaligned countries against false propaganda by a few nations. He pointed out that America's attack on Libya poses a threat to the entire world. He also criticized the aggressive policies of Israel.

The vice minister for foreign affairs of Colombia, Dr Guillermo Fernandez Esoto, spoke about the worsening international situation. He said the Nonaligned Movement should reiterate its demand for the withdrawal of all foreign troops from the vulnerable areas and an end to foreign interference in internal matters.

Libya Urges 'Direct Blows' at U.S.

BK190925 Hong Kong AFP in English 0917 GMT 19 Apr 86

[Text] New Delhi, Apr. 19 (AFP) — Libyan Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan al-Mansur said here Saturday that the only way to deal with U.S. terrorism was to strike "direct blows" at the United States everywhere. He told a non-aligned movement ministerial meeting that the U.S. bombings of Libya Tuesday had "put the world on the verge of war in the Mediterranean."

The only response to U.S. "terrorism" was by "enlarging our attacks against it in all fields and directing blows at it everywhere with the aim of supporting right, isolating the aggressor and ousting it from international organisations," Mr al-Mansur said. He called on the non-aligned movement "to concentrate and unify our strength" to achieve these aims. He accused the United States of seeking to overthrow a member government of the United Nations and of attributing to other countries terrorism which it carried out itself.

The U.S. bombing was undertaken following clear intelligence reports that Libya had been involved in recent terrorist killings of U.S. citizens, President Ronald Reagan said. Saturday was due to be the closing day of the Non-aligned Ministerial Coordinating Bureau meeting.

Iraq's 'Aziz Calls For Peace

JN200836 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0725 GMT 20 Apr 86

[Excerpts] New Delhi, 20 Apr (INA) — Iraq has called on Iran to agree to an arbitration committee set up by the Nonaligned Movement to look into the two sides' accusations beginning with the current ruling regime assumed power in 1979 until the eruption of the war in September 1980. This came in a speech by Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, in reply to the speech by the Iranian regime's foreign minister at the closing session of the ministerial meeting of the Nonaligned Movement Coordinating Bureau which ended meetings in New Delhi today.

Tariq 'Aziz said: I am empowered by my government to sign an agreement with the Iranian side under the supervision of the Nonaligned Movement's president and under which the two sides will commit themselves to implement all international laws and conventions.

Tariq 'Aziz added that Iraq has always been ready to abide by all international laws and conventions, stressing that the party that will be condemned will be the party which rejects comprehensive negotiations and extracts from international laws and conventions whatever suits its position and is in harmony with its own stands.

Tariq 'Aziz emphasized that Iraq had expressed complete readiness to immediately halt the war and initiate negotiations for the attainment of a just and honorable solution that will be in line with the principles of the Nonaligned Movement and the UN Charter and the provisions of international law.

Tariq 'Aziz said that the Iranian delegation had rejected this call and insisted on its stand of prolonging the war. He said: Now, 3 years later, we find that the Iranian stand is the same. As we tried in 1983 to reach a decision for settling the dispute, we now find that the Iranian delegation is once again opposing any solution and putting obstacles before all the good offices by the heads of the delegations to reach a proposal that will lead us to peace. Tariq 'Aziz said: As we expressed our readiness to accept the call that was made in 1983, we now reiterate our readiness to reach a just and honorable peaceful solution that will be based on the same principles.

YAR Official on U.S., Region

*GF181823 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT
18 Apr 86*

[Text] [Words indistinct] Ahmad al-Iryani, Foreign Ministry undersecretary and head of our delegation taking part in the ministerial meeting of the Nonaligned Coordinating Bureau, said that the U.S. aggression on the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya constitutes a dangerous phenomenon in the international relations and a violation of the UN Charter. He stressed — in the speech he delivered at the ministerial meeting of the Nonaligned Coordinating Bureau currently convening in New Delhi — the need for ensuring solidarity and unity of the nonaligned countries, intensification of their active role in preserving international peace and security, and the need to continue to back the Arab Palestinian people in their struggle to restore all their legitimate rights — including their right to return home, to self-determination, and to the establishment of their independent state on their national soil under the leadership of the PLO, the sole and the legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

He pointed out that peace in the Middle East will not be attained until the Palestinian issue has been solved in a just way based on the Palestinian people's restoration of all their legitimate rights. He then denounced the practices of the racist regime in South Africa and its cooperation with the racist Zionist occupation authorities. He reiterated our country's support for the struggle of the peoples of South Africa and Namibia in their struggle against the racist regime and its savage activities.

He called on the nonaligned countries to conclude their sessions by reaching resolutions that restore life to the movement, reorganize the processing of its roles, and end the regretful war taking place between Iraq and Iran. In this respect, he praised the positive Iraqi positions toward the mediation efforts designed to end the in-fighting and to solve the problems pending between the countries through peaceful channels. He added that our country rejects all forms of interferences in the internal affairs.

He renewed the call for establishing a new international economic system — qualified with justice and equality — that enables the developing countries to preserve their natural resources and to exploit them in the most ideal way through backing the development programs there.

Concluding his speech, he stressed the importance of resuming the North-South dialogue in order to tackle all the existing economic and financial problems, including the issue of a deficit in the balance of payments of the development countries and the increase in debts. He called on the industrial countries to respond positively with efforts designed to find a solution to these debts, which obstructs the continuation of this dialogue.

SFRY's Dizdarevic Address

LD180536 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1210 GMT 16 Apr 86

[Text] Delhi, 16 Apr (TANJUG) — Addressing the participants in the ministerial conference of the Nonaligned Countries Coordinating Bureau in Delhi this morning, Raif Dizdarevic,

Federal secretary for foreign affairs, said that the world continues to be confronted with attempts to legalize the policy of force, interference, and intervention, which are jeopardizing the stability in the world as a whole.

We are rightly concerned over the future of peace, Dizdarevic said, because in a world as ours at present, no one can feel secure. We are particularly concerned over the fact that it is the non-aligned countries, their internal stability, sovereignty, and independence that are the butt of such a policy.

Using Libya as an example, Dizdarevic said that at the moment, over 40 nonaligned countries throughout the world were subject to brutal pressure and are under a threat of war as a result of either direct or indirect bloc confrontation.

Having noted that the Nonaligned Movement was the only movement with a clearly defined doctrine of peaceful coexistence and universal detente in the nuclear age, the federal secretary went on to stress that in its activity, the movement should concentrate on working out specific initiatives and ensuring that it participates directly in the increasingly complex process of international negotiation about disarmament. He called for a program to be drawn up before the Harare summit of nonaligned countries for actions which aim to achieve the total banning of nuclear tests, end the nuclear arms race on earth and in space, eliminate mass destruction weapons and substantially reduce military forces in the world.

Having stated that a serious and dangerous crisis is developing in the Mediterranean which could have unforeseeable consequences, and that aside from Europe, the Mediterranean region has the largest stockpiles of weapons for mass destruction, Dizdarevic said that the use of force, as in the case of Libya, and mounting pressure on the nonaligned countries poses a constant threat of fresh conflict on a larger scale. The serious nature of the situation, he stressed, calls for the entire movement to undertake decisive action.

Turning to the increasingly critical position of the developing countries as a result of the lack of readiness of the developed world for a dialogue on essential changes, Dizdarevic said that international economic relations represent an essential question for the position, development, and security of the nonaligned countries. In this connection, he cited the fact that last year, in comparison with 1979, the number of countries whose economies were stagnating had doubled, while almost 50 countries had a growth rate below the growth of their population.

If we do not involve ourselves with determination in the resolution of these problems, our movement will remain on the sidelines of trends on which the world's future depends, said Raif Dizdarevic. He added that priority in the activities of the nonaligned must be given to essential questions of development. He supported India's proposal for a permanent ministerial committee of nonaligned and developing countries to be set up as quickly as possible in order to realize the movement's aims and programs. Our strategic orientation, he said, is that burning questions should be resolved in a constructive dialogue of the developed and developing countries.

Devoting a significant part of his speech to negative tendencies in international relations, Dizdarevic said that these are most clearly evident in the failure to resolve problems and the exacerbation of existing trouble spots. In this connection he stressed the war of extermination being waged by the regime in the south of the continent, the lasting crisis in the Middle East, the continuation of the Iraq-Iran war, and as he said, its fatal consequences for the peoples of these countries and for peace and security throughout the region. This war is a source of deep concern and worry for us, he said, and it is our duty to persist in seeking a peaceful solution.

SRV Foreign Minister on Cambodia

*BK181602 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT
18 Apr 86*

[Text] The foreign minister of Vietnam, Mr Nguyen Co Thach, said in New Delhi today that there would be another partial withdrawal of Vietnamese troops from Kampuchea. He told a news conference that the pull-out will be effected sometime later this year. This will be in line with the deadline set for complete withdrawal by 1990.

Singapore: Support ASEAN on Cambodia

*BK181207 Singapore Domestic Service in English
1100 GMT 18 Apr 86*

[Text] Singapore, Malaysia, and Indonesia have urged the Non-aligned Movement to back ASEAN efforts to resolve the Cambodian conflict. They say Vietnam has a special obligation as a nonaligned country to respect the movement's basic principles — nonintervention, noninterference in the internal affairs of states.

The foreign ministers of the three countries said this in a document given to ministers attending the meeting of the Non-aligned Movement in New Delhi. The document said Vietnam should withdraw its forces from Cambodia in response to earlier Nonaligned Movement calls that it abide by decisions taken at the UN. The UN recognizes the Cambodian resistance coalition government of Democratic Kampuchea and not the Vietnamese-backed Heng Samrin regime. Vietnam has between 150 and 180,000 troops in Cambodia.

Cuban Foreign Minister Interviewed

*BK181719 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1545 GMT
18 Apr 86*

["Spotlight" program: Interview with Cuban Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca by L.K. Sharma, special correspondent of *THE TIMES OF INDIA*; date not given — recorded; all answers in Spanish fading into English translation]

[Text][Sharma] Your Excellency, the foreign minister of Cuba. May I begin by asking you about a general assessment of the progress of the nonaligned ministerial meeting this time in view of the several issues which have been raised as, for example, Iran and Iraq, which has (?defined) solution for last several years.

[Malmierca] Our meeting has been very (?positive), and we have paid special attention to the present international situation, devoting special attention to the defence of international peace and security, the need to stop the piling arms race — this actually consuming resources that could have been used up for development. The opening speech delivered by Rajiv Gandhi, prime minister of India, marks the very necessary need to put attention to this matter. [In] speeches delivered by the heads and the ministers in the plenary, the need for an end to Iran-Iraq war has been stressed. Even long before the beginning of the war, the Nonaligned Movement made efforts to avoid this war. However, after the beginning of that war the movement has never stopped in the search for a political, peaceful, just, and honorable solution to that war.

[Sharma] Yes, we are all aware several attempts have been made. In fact, you are yourself a member of the ministerial delegation which went to Iran and Iraq several times. Why is it that the Nonaligned Movement has not succeeded in convincing the two warring nonaligned nations that it is better to resolve this dispute?

[Malmierca] The Nonaligned Movement as well as the United Nations, with other countries and smaller international bodies, made their greater efforts to prevent that war and to find a solution to it. (?But) the differences existing between and Iran and Iraq are their [words indistinct] differences and unfortunately, we have not been able to find an amicable resolution. We believe that we should continue, if [it is] necessary for us to continue these efforts.

[Sharma] Unfortunately, not only the movement has not been able to find a solution to the conflict, but even in the conference you have not been able to convince Iraq and Iran to come to an agreed (?conclusion) as far as how to put their dispute in the declaration, in the draft declaration, which has [words indistinct]. In the case of Libya, for example, there has been a large degree of unanimity that this is an attack which has been condemned by almost all members. Do you think there has been some progress in this regard of doing something concrete besides passing a resolution?

[Malmierca] We actually start our ministerial meeting of NAM [Nonaligned Movement] with a high expression of view of condemnation against U.S. for that barbaric aggression against Libya. (?We extend) solidarity with the people of Libya. The political committee of the NAM meeting has passed a resolution to send a ministerial delegation to Tripoli in order to convey the communique passed at the meeting and (?solidarity) with the Libyan people. In addition to that, agreement was made to send a ministerial delegation to New York. In order to go to New York to [words indistinct] to the president of the Security Council and talk with the secretary general for the adoption of a resolution against the United States on account of the U.S. aggression to Libya. Also an appeal was made to circulate its resolution among all the member states of the Security Council [words indistinct] the United States for the attack against Libya.

[Sharma] On the political side, I must note that some of the other issues — political issues, which used to create a lot of controversy earlier, like, for example, Kampuchea and Afghanistan — this time the ministerial meeting has been able to get over these problems quite smoothly and we have been able to finalize the

declaration referring to these two issues. What is your assessment?

[Malmierca] On this aspect, I favor the unity of action of the movement without modification that [words indistinct] that we had passed in our former meeting.

[Sharma] What is the assessment of the international economic situation? Havana had presented a very detailed, well-documented report on the international situation when India took over as the NAM chairman, and whether the situation has deteriorated further and what is the ministerial conference doing about highlighting this aspect?

[Malmierca] The economic commission has devoted a lot of attention to the examination of the present international economic situation. The economic commission continues efforts made to the deterioration to the economy of the developing countries. [sentence as heard] Efforts [words indistinct] to find solution does not imply a working of a living or worsening condition of our people. [In] the need to link the struggle for disarmament to the struggle for development and also the possibility of establishing a permanent committee consisting of member states of the movement — this meeting will be an important contribution to the successful preparation of the next summit conference.

[Sharma] Thank you, Foreign Minister.

ANC Calls For Strike Against S. Africa

BK191452 Hong Kong AFP in English 1422 GMT 19 Apr 86

[Text] New Delhi, April 19 (AFP) — The African National Congress (ANC) called here on Saturday [19 April] for people all over the world to support a general strike in South Africa planned for June. The head of the ANC's International Department, Johnny Makatini, made the call at a press conference on the sidelines of the nonaligned ministerial meeting. He called for "acts of solidarity," such as workers refusing to load or unload ships going to or coming from South Africa, to maximise the effects of the strike.

Mr. Makatini made a particular plea to the peoples of the United States, Britain and West Germany to "exert maximum pressure on their governments for comprehensive and mandatory sanctions" against Pretoria. The three countries are South Africa's major trading partners and have resisted calls for sanctions to bring down the apartheid regime. He also urged India to supply arms to the ANC to help it fight Pretoria. "We need the tools," he said.

Mr. Makatini, who is heading the ANC delegation at the non-aligned conference, said ANC President Oliver Tambo would visit India from May 6. The visit would be in appreciation for India's long-standing support.

Draft on Settlement of Afghan Problem Presented

*BK190250 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT
19 Apr 86*

[Text] The UN secretary general's personal representative on Afghanistan, Diego Cordovez, has personally presented to the foreign ministers of Pakistan and Afghanistan in New Delhi a draft of the fourth instrument regarding a comprehensive settlement of the Afghanistan problem.

A UN spokesman said the draft deals with the interrelationship between the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan and the other three instruments regarding noninterference, international guarantees, and the voluntary return of Afghan refugees. This instrument will serve as a basis for discussion at the seventh round of talks to be held in Geneva beginning 5 May.

The spokesman also said that Cordovez will inform the Iranian foreign minister of the progress of this diplomatic process today.

Protest Lodged With Afghanistan Over 16 Apr Firing

*BK201555 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT
20 Apr 86*

[Text] The Karmal administration's Armed Forces used tanks and artillery to fire on Lakka Tigga of Khurram Agency and (Chadgai) area in North Waziristan on 16th of this month. Two Afghan refugee children were injured in the shelling.

The Karmal administration's forces also fired mortars into Murtaghicha village in the north of Chaman, injuring a Pakistani woman.

The Afghan charge d'affaires was summoned to the Foreign Office this morning and a strong protest was lodged with him over these unprovoked attacks.

Meanwhile, Pakistan rejected the Karmal administration's protest that Pakistani Air Force planes allegedly fired on several villages in (Istanbulbar) area in Qandahar Province on 14 and 16 April.

The Afghan charge d'affaires was summoned to the Foreign Office this morning and told that inquiries revealed these allegations to be baseless.

Afghan Refugee Arrested in Hotel Bombing

AU201847 Paris AFP in English 1840 GMT 20 Apr 86

[Excerpt] Islamabad, April 20 (AFP) — One person was injured Sunday when a bomb exploded in a Peshawar hotel frequented by Westerners en route to Afghanistan, correspondents reported. The device exploded under a staircase leading to the reception area of Green's Hotel in front of a travel agency representing British Airways, sources said.

Police sources said an Afghan refugee was arrested trying to leave the hotel through a service door shortly before the explosion.

Foreign Minister Returns From Nonaligned Meeting

*BK200140 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT
19 Apr 86*

[Text] The foreign minister, Sahabzada Yaqub Khan, has said the NAM [Nonaligned Movement] ministerial meeting in New Delhi has retained the position on the Afghanistan issue taken by it in the past. Under it the situation in Afghanistan can best be solved by political means based on the withdrawal of foreign forces from that country. He was talking to newsmen on arrival at the Islamabad airport from New Delhi this evening. The foreign minister said it was most important issue from the Pakistan point of view and Pakistan welcomed the NAM decision in its declaration. It could be prelude to the forthcoming proximity talks in Geneva beginning early next month.

Sahabzada Yaqub Khan said the conference covered all political and economic issues and the Pakistan delegation contributed to all issues and projected its views in an objective and constructive manner.

The foreign minister said during his stay in New Delhi he met the Indian prime minister, his cabinet colleagues, members of parliament, editors, columnists and writers. He tried to clear misgivings between India and Pakistan. He had impression that there was a desire on both sides to resume the process of normalization. The foreign minister said his Indian counterpart explained to him the situation in Punjab. He told the Indian foreign minister that Pakistan adheres to the policy of noninterference in the internal affairs of any country, particularly its neighbors. Pakistan had no intention to interfere in the internal affairs of India and that the situation in the Indian Punjab was exclusively an Indian affair.

Sahabzada Yaqub Khan said he also met a number of foreign ministers and exchanged views with them on regional and international issues on matters of bilateral interests. These exchanges were beneficial and useful.

Earlier, talking to Pakistani newsmen before his departure from New Delhi, the foreign minister said there was no question of having direct talks with the Babrak Karmal regime in Afghanistan. He said Pakistan would have an in-depth study of the draft of the fourth instrument delivered to him by the personal representative of the UN secretary general and respond to it at the coming round of proximity talks in Geneva next month.

As already reported, the UN envoy, Mr Cordovez, met the foreign ministers of Pakistan and the Karmal regime in the Indian capital yesterday and delivered to them the draft instrument. Meanwhile, Mr Cordovez talking to newsmen in New Delhi today, said that the proximity talks between Pakistan and Afghanistan have entered a decisive stage. The two countries, he added, had shown a sense of urgency in finding a settlement. He said as a result of intensive diplomatic efforts made by him, he had been able to break the impasse which had been created by the Karmal regime's insistence to have direct talks. Pakistan's firm stand is to continue indirect talks and to discuss the fourth instrument in the same manner as the previous three documents were done. Mr Cordovez expressed his confidence that the adop-

tion of the fourth document would lead to a settlement of the issue. After its adoption, he said, the format of talks would change from proximity to direct talks for signing the agreement.

Delegation Expresses Satisfaction

*BK210518 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT
21 Apr 86*

[Text] Pakistani delegation sources have expressed satisfaction over the outcome of the Nonaligned Coordinating Bureau's ministerial meeting which concluded in New Delhi yesterday. The meeting approved Pakistan's major proposals on world issues, international situation, disarmament, security and peaceful settlement of disputes. These sources said that the meeting reaffirmed Pakistan's stand on Afghanistan that a settlement of the issue should be sought on the basis of withdrawal of foreign forces from that country. This is all the more important in view of the upcoming round of indirect talks on Afghanistan in Geneva. These sources said that in light of Pakistan's proposal which explained the issue of mutual settlement of disputes, the meeting called upon the nonaligned countries to fully adhere to the UN Charter and implement the Security Council and General Assembly resolutions.

These sources said that Pakistan approved most of the stands adopted at the meeting. However, on the Cyprus issue, Pakistan proposed that instead of adopting a strategy of condemning one side, emphasis should be laid on the need for conciliation and promotion of negotiations between both sides. In view of the chairman's ruling against this stand, Pakistan was forced to object on the Cyprus issue.

The Pakistani delegation's major efforts in the economic field has been considerably successful and these efforts were aimed at keeping in view the recommendations of the ministerial meeting of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation recently held in Islamabad.

Information Minister Rules Out Ban on Demonstrations

*BK190448 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT
18 Apr 86*

[Text] The federal minister of information and broadcasting, Chaudhury Shujat Hussain, has said the freedom of the press is a prerequisite for flourishing of democracy and it is the intention of the government to maintain it. He was talking to newsmen at

the Karachi airport on his arrival this afternoon on a 3-day visit to the provincial capital. He expressed his satisfaction over the press and government relations and said the press, which is enjoying full freedom, is playing a positive and reasonable role.

Chaudhury Shujat Hussain said the government would do everything to solve the problems faced by the press, particularly the small newspapers and periodicals.

Replying to a question about giving coverage to the political leaders on radio and television, he said no such move was in the offing. However, he pointed out that full coverage was already being given to them during the coverage of assembly proceedings over these media.

Replying to another question, he said the government has no intention of imposing a ban on the processions in the country. He said the frequency of the processions on the roads would be reduced automatically with the passage of time.

When his attention was drawn to anti-state slogans raised by some elements, he said the government has avoided any action and demonstrated tolerance. However, this should not be construed as its weakness. The government wants that political process should continue without hindrance.

Karachi Details Successful Mujahidin Actions

*BK210404 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT
21 Apr 86*

[Text] According to reports, the mujahidin have carried out several successful attacks on Soviet-Karmal forces in various areas of Afghanistan. The mujahidin ambushed a Soviet-Karmal convoy near Moqor in Ghazni Province and inflicted heavy loss of life. Two tanks of the Soviet-Karmal forces were destroyed and the soldiers manning them were killed. The mujahidin later barricaded a highway stopping traffic for 1 day.

In another action near Qarah Bagh, a tank and a trailer were blown up. The same day, Soviet bombers raided rural areas.

The mujahidin attacked a military camp in the (Tud) region near Feyzabad in Badakhshan Province early this month and killed at least 8 Soviet soldiers and captured 11. Reports of fierce fighting have also been received from the Qandahar, Jahwar and Kabul areas.

Further on Khamene'i Sermon on Army's Role; Ethics
LD181557 Tehran IRNA in English 1336 GMT 18 Apr 86

[Text] Tehran, April 18, IRNA — To mark the annual army day, the president spoke on changes that the armed forces have been undergoing since the 1979 Islamic revolution and said the trend should continue. The army was under pressure by leftist and rightist political forces after the revolution but kept to the center with encouragements from Imam Khomeyni, the leader of the Islamic revolution, according to Khamene'i who heads the Supreme Defence Council. The leftists wanted to dismantle the army all together while the right sought to provoke the military against the revolution, Khamene'i said. But the army maintained its commitment with the mainstream revolution and is valiantly fighting against the Iraqi aggression. Since then the army has made many advances in the war fronts. It has improved its ability to develop its organizations, train new military cadres and work towards the repair and production of spare parts, Khamene'i said.

Sitting among the worshippers who had filled the university campus were navy personnel, students from the military school, regular military men and basij para-military volunteers.

"Those who have faith will win the battle. Strengthen your faith. Give pious elements the opportunity to work... develop your spirit as well as your organization" the president advised the army.

In the first of the two sermons, where the prayer leader usually discusses ethical issues, Khamene'i said moderation was the key solution to consumerism. Patterns of consumption in Iran underwent drastic changes in late 1950's when new oil dollars brought with them imported foreign goods. Iranian families were used to contentment. Islamic moderation was the dominating trend, said the president in reference to earlier days. Life in the country had an Islamic hue. But the West planned and imposed a consumption pattern aimed at winning the Iranian market as well as introducing Western culture among the people, according to Khamene'i. Islam proposes its own pattern of consumption through moderation and the government is responsible to find its standard, he said. Iran's Islamic Republic says it seeks to change the economic infrastructure of the country that is dependent on income from oil sales.

Foreign Minister Walks Out of Nonaligned Conference
LD201144 Tehran IRNA in English 1110 GMT 20 Apr 86

[Text] New Delhi, April 20, IRNA — Iran's Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati walked out of the final session of the Conference of Foreign Ministers of Nonaligned countries here Sunday morning in protest of a one-sided proposal by the Indian foreign minister on ending the Iraqi-imposed war. Bali Ram Bhagat who chaired the session, after four days of deliberations over the issue stated his proposal in Sunday's session.

Walking out of the conference in protest of the proposal, Velayati told reporters "Mr Bhagat's proposal is unacceptable since it has not referred to the Baghdad regime as the aggressor."

Meanwhile Iran's representative to the U.N. Seyyed Rajaie-Khorassani, who is a member of the Iranian delegation to the

NAM conference, read Velayati's statement to the conference in which he said that one-sided proposal of the chairman of the conference was not acceptable to Iran because it was offered at a time when Iraq was committing worst aggressions against Iran. The statement stressed that the Iraqi regime is an infringer of international regulations and the most notorious war criminal which has deployed chemical weapons against Iran in a large-scale. It added that the Iranian people would resist the aggression and would continue their self-defence.

The Iraqi regime and its reactionary supporters in a bid to make up for their political defeat in the NAM political committee, Saturday night exerted pressures on the chairman of the conference and thereby marred neutrality of the host over the issue.

Further Details

LD201312 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 20 Apr 86

[Excerpts] Ending his visit to India, Foreign Minister Velayati returned home this morning and spoke to our correspondent on issues facing the New Delhi conference.

[Begin recording][Correspondent] Mr Velayati, could you please comment on the Nonaligned Movement session in New Delhi, as well as your participation in the foreign ministers' coordinating meeting?

[Velayati] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. The Nonaligned Movement's Coordinating Bureau in New Delhi was held in order to prepare the grounds for the next conference, which is to convene in Zimbabwe next Shalritsa [September 1986]. The committee considered and debated the various issues facing the Third World and the members of the Nonaligned Movement. The committee also debated certain economic problems facing the members.

One of the major issues debated at the political committee was the Iraqi-imposed war. The debate lasted for 5 hours, from just midnight until the early hours of the morning. A long and tumultuous discussion took place between the Iranian and Iraqi delegates. There were countries who supported us during the exchanges and there were countries supporting the Iraqi regime. In view of the fact that standard practices adhered to by the Nonaligned Movement in committees and the general assembly are aimed at collective views and because no collective view was held by the political committee with regard to the Iran-Iraq war, the final resolution did not include any point or words concerning the war.

[Correspondent] You did not attend part of the final session which dealt with the Iran-Iraq war. Why did you not attend it?

[Velayati] Considering that in the final session the committee make their report, a report by the politico-economic committee was read out. The chairman of the meeting had expressed a wish for an end to the Iran-Iraq war. What we were saying was that if anything was to be said, then justice should be taken into consideration; otherwise, we said, we could not attend a meeting which was to discuss a war which has been imposed on us and

which has caused us major losses and inflicted major injustices on Iran. We said we could not simply sit there and listen, without being able to object to the issues raised. The chairman expressed the hope for an end to the war, for establishing peace between the two countries as soon as possible. However, he failed to mention who was the culprit in this war, how much damage Iraq has caused to Iran, a nonaligned and revolutionary country, and how Iraq had violated international law. This was taking place at a time when certain aspects of the violation by the Iraqi regime were so obvious that some international bodies, such as the United Nations, and some officials, such as the UN secretary-general, had already repeatedly condemned Iraq for the deployment of chemical weapons. Nevertheless, the chairman refused even to allude to such instances. Consequently, we considered that it would not serve the interest of the Islamic Republic to attend a meeting. However, once the debate was over, our delegate returned to the meeting. [end recording]

Musavi: 7 Volunteer Divisions Sent to Fronts

*LD201408 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT
20 Apr 86*

[Excerpts] The Central News Unit reports that in today's cabinet meeting, Prime Minister Musavi spoke about the dispatch of seven divisions of combative forces to the war fronts comprising government employees, university students, and other specialist forces.

The cabinet also approved the appointments of 'Ali Nekuhi as governor general of Bakhtaran, and Morteza Hadi as governor general of Mazandaran. The services of previous governors-general were praised by the cabinet.

Guards Corps Calls For 'Guerrilla War' Volunteers

*LD191407 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT
19 Apr 86*

[Announcement by the Central Headquarters of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps]

[Text] In order to extend guerrilla and irregular warfare deep inside the territory of Ba'thist-Zionist enemy and also to assist Muslim Iraqi strugglers, the Irregular Warfare Headquarters of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps has begun operating. All volunteer brothers who are ready, are capable of carrying out guerrilla missions, and have participated in at least two war operations are invited to heed the recent call by the imam of the ummah and join this new war front along with the Karbala' Wayfarers being despatched to the fronts.

All volunteers from 18 to 30 years of age may become members of the Irregular Warfare Headquarters of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps as official, honorary or contract members, and be given a 2-year guaranteed term of service. They may report to all centers and headquarters of the corps throughout the country from Monday 21 April through 5 May for registration and further information. Telephone number 39-49-44 may be contacted for any queries.

Student Volunteers Depart for Fronts 18 Apr

*GF190721 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT
19 Apr 86*

[Text] A large group of students from the Lorestan Shahid Beheshti Academy left for the warfronts amid a warm send-off by the residents of Khorramabad, yesterday afternoon. Another group from Gilan University and the students of the Birjand higher education institutions left for the fronts to join the ranks of the Islamic combatants for battle with the mercenary Zionist regime of Iraq.

Battalions Formed in Provinces for Battlefronts

*GF200749 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT
20 Apr 86*

[Text] Continuing the active departure of people from various strata of society to the fronts of right versus wrong and the increasing presence of students and university personnel on the fields of battle with the Zionist enemy, a group of students from the technical training center of Iran left for battlefronts of right versus wrong. A large group of students of the physical training center from the Shahid Chamran Teachers' Training Center in Tehran, and students of Kerman, Babol left for the war zones of our country.

According to a Central News Unit report, a battalion comprised of the combatant forces from the cadres of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps of Mazandaran left for the fronts. A volunteers' company of the people's mobilization of Darreh ye-Shahr and a battalion and a company from Meshgin Shahr, two battalions from the people's forces of Heris District, and a company from Osku left for the battlefronts amid a warm send off.

Similarly, during the past 2 days, numerous groups of expert combat forces from the provinces of Bovir Ahmadi va Koh-kiluyeh and Yazd and from the cities of Esfahan, Arak, Gorgan, Piruzkuh, Sabzevar, Mashhad, Neyshabur, Garmsar, Saveh, Shirvan, Esfaryen, Karaj, Ilam Gachsaran, Owramanat, and Paveh left for the fronts.

Reportage on Combat Operations in War With Iraq

'Unknown Aircraft' Attack Panamanian Tanker

*LD181338 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT
18 Apr 86*

[Text] According to UP, a small oil tanker of Panamanian registry was attacked by unknown aircraft in the Persian Gulf yesterday. According to the same report, Lloyds Shipping Insurance announced in London that 2 rockets had hit the 2,638-ton Panamanian oil tanker.

Communique No 2,444

LD181656 Tehran IRNA in English 1640 GMT 18 Apr 86

[Text] Tehran, April 18, IRNA — Iranian war planes on Friday twice hit Iraqi troops concentration centers in the city of Zobey-

dah at 16.00 hours local time (12.30 GMT) and safely returned to their bases, according to Military communique number 2444 of the Joint Staff Command of the Armed Forces of Iran released here Friday.

The joint Staff communique also says that three Iraqi commandos were taken captive near Nahr-Anbar in the wake of a clash between a group of Iraqi commandos and an Iranian reconnaissance unit near the Iraqi quarters. It says also that five houses and a church were partly damaged in the city of Abadan as the city was hit by Iraq's long range artillery fire on Thursday. At 22.30 hours local time Thursday (19.00 GMT) Iran's Muslim fighters backed by artillery units advanced to Mishoulan and Tekeh-Shenam heights north east of Al-Sulaymaniyah in Iraq and liberated pre-determined points in the wake of fighting with the Iraqi troops there.

Artillery fire continued in the north western fronts Thursday raging somewhat more heavily in Haj 'Umran and Sardasht. In the western fronts also artillery fire raged a little more heavily in Sumar and Mehran. In the southern fronts Iran's muslim fighters manned their positions throughout Thursday inflicting damage and casualties upon the Iraqi forces. Meanwhile one group of Iraqi soldiers attacked an Iranian troop concentration center near Mehran Thursday but were immediately repelled sustaining heavy casualties.

Communique No 2,445

LD191938 Tehran IRNA in English 1734 GMT 19 Apr 86

[Text] Tehran, April 19, IRNA — Four commercial ships suspected of carrying goods for the Iraqi regime were intercepted and later released by Iranian naval forces in the Persian Gulf and Oman Sea during Thursday and Friday, according to a military communique here Saturday. Communique number 2445 of the Joint Staff command of the armed forces says the Iranian naval forces released the ships after they were satisfied that there were no Iraqi-bound goods aboard them.

Iran's Muslim forces repulsed several Iraqi assaults in Zobeydah and Bayat, both in the southern fronts, Friday, forcing them to retreat and inflicting heavy casualties and losses. Helicopters of Iranian Army aviation service also pounded Iraqi troops inflicting casualties and losses on them, the command says.

The communique says that no immediate report was available on the exact number of Iraqi casualties or the extent of their losses in the southern fronts. One Iraqi truck carrying personnel was also destroyed and all the personnel aboard it were killed in a part of the said fronts.

In the western fronts, the communique says, 100-plus Iraqi soldiers were killed or wounded and 15 gun emplacements and observation posts, three tanks and six light and heavy vehicles demolished.

Artillery fire of Iranian Muslim combatants forced away an Iraqi patrol unit as it was trying to infiltrate Iranian positions in Nahr-Anbar early Friday sustaining casualties and damage, according to the joint staff.

Iranian Muslim combatants, the communique says, prevented Iraqi troops from carrying out engineering operations and pounded their vehicle columns transporting troops in Khorramshahr, Jofeyr, Khushk, Faqqeh, Sharhani, Zobeydah and Bayat fronts. Heavy exchange of artillery fire between Iranian Muslim forces and Iraqi troops were reported in Sharhani and Majnun Islands, according to the communique.

In Bakhtaran and Ilam border fronts, the communique says, Iranian forces checked reconnaissance flights of Iraqi helicopters and opened fire on enemy armoured units in the areas. Also oil installations in Iraqi townships of Banmil and Naft Khaneh sustained damage Friday as they were hit by Iranian artillery fire.

Iranian artillery fire on Iraqi positions in the northwestern fronts destroyed parts of their positions and observation posts and prevented movement of enemy infantry and armoured units especially in Panjwin.

Land, Air, Naval Victories

LD201135 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 20 Apr 86

[Communique No 28 issued by Khatam ol-Anbiya' Headquarters on the "Val-Fajr-8" operations]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. O you brave Islamic ummah, you combative and courageous Iranian nation. The Islamic valiants, in safeguarding the "Val-Fajr-8" operational theater, last night succeeded in inflicting heavy losses and casualties on the Zionist enemy in the Al-Faw-Umm Qasr axis, thus gaining yet more glorious victories.

In the course of this heavy battle, which is still continuing, the Islamic combatants succeeded in surrounding the 93d Brigade of the II Corps' 17th Armored Division; the 96th Brigade of the 7th Infantry Division, and the 423d Brigade of the 21st Infantry Division of I Corps.

As a result, our forces killed more than 1,000 enemy troops and took prisoner a great many Iraqi personnel. So far, dozens of captured troops, including a company commander, have been transferred behind the front line.

During these heavy battles the ever-victorious combatants of the ground forces of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps succeeded in destroying enemy positions, setting ablaze equipment and also downing an Iraqi helicopter gunship, killing its crew in the "Val-Fajr-8" operational theater.

Islamic Air Force planes today attacked enemy positions, causing heavy casualties. The relentless battle by Islamic combatants continues in order to wipe out the remaining enemy forces, which are surrounded, and to capture any others. Bodies of enemy forces are scattered all over the operational area.

Following the successful transfer of the first large convoy of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps naval forces, these forces, having employed special and totally new tactics, managed to take

the third large naval convoy of the Islamic Corps to the "Val-Fajr-8" operational theater by crossing the Persian Gulf. Victory comes from God, and is near!

Communique Issued on Iraqi Losses

*LD201755 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT
20 Apr 86*

[Communique No 29 issued by Khatam ol-Anbiya' Headquarters on the "Val-Fajr-8" operations]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate the merciful. O brave ummah of Islam; O combative nation of Iran. Simultaneous with the glorious dispatch of the Karbala' convoys, in response to the recent command of the great leader of the Islamic Revolution and the commander-in-chief, and the glowing sagas created by the forces of Islam on all fronts, the heroic defenders of the Islamic ummah continued their victorious battle on the "Val-Fajr-8" operational theater. In continuation of their brave defense of the captured positions in operation "Val-Fajr-8" last night, in a heavy clash with the Ba'thist, Zionist forces of Saddam on the Al-Faw-Umm Qasr axis, while neutralizing the feeble enemy attempts and chasing the fleeing enemy forces, they dealt heavy blows and heavy losses on the enemy.

During this heavy battle, which lasted until this afternoon, the pagan-fighting forces of Islam destroyed more than 70 percent of the 96th Infantry Brigade, 60 percent of the 99th Infantry Brigade, 50 percent of the 103d Infantry Brigade and 30 percent of the 421st Infantry Brigade of the defeated Iraqi army, killing more than 1,500 enemy troops, injuring 2,600 and capturing a large number of personnel of the damaged enemy brigades.

So far, dozens of enemy POW's have been transferred to behind the lines. Among the POW's, several Iraqi officers, including Lt Col Qasim Mustafa Yunis, the commander of the 3d Battalion of the 96th Infantry Brigade, and five other officers and NCO's can be seen.

Following the propaganda activities of the combatants of Islam on the fronts in that sector, several enemy troops who discovered the evil nature of the criminal 'Aflaki regime of Baghdad surrendered to the God-seeking forces of the army of monotheism today and were sheltered by the forces of Islam.

The Khatam ol-Anbiya' Headquarters deems it necessary to declare to all the deceived personnel of the dying forces of Iraq: Now that the powerful forces of Islam have liberated the strategic Al-Faw sector and have created memorable sagas in operation "Val-Fajr-8," exhibiting God's power to the world, they should go to the positions of the forces of Islam as soon as they hear their first message and seek shelter under the Islamic Republic of Iran.

During today's heavy battle, the ground forces of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps destroyed the positions of the defeated Ba'thist forces, liberating more parts in the sector and raising the proud flag of Islam in the captured positions.

An Iraqi helicopter gunship was shot down by the air defense units of Guards Corps ground forces in the "Val-Fajr-8" operational theater.

The self-sacrificing pilots of the Islamic Republic Air Force today bombed enemy positions in that sector, inflicting heavy losses on the enemy.

With the dispatch and docking of the second large convoy of the navy of the Guards Corps on the Persian Gulf shores, in the Arvand River and the waters in the "Val-Fajr-8" operation theater, with God's endless blessings and the prayers of the Hezbollahi ummah and with shouts of "God is great" from the forces of Islam, once again the forces of Islam exhibited their strength in using special tactics and adopting completely new methods, which neutralized any feeble enemy attempts.

Seek God's assistance and victory is nigh; glad tidings to the faithful.

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

22 APRIL 1986

Libya

JANA's political editor denounced the EEC clampdown on the numbers and movements of Libyans in Europe as a "U.S. decision," warning that Libya will henceforth be obliged to treat the Europeans as "accomplices" in the "ugly U.S. crime." By "negating" their previous stands, the EEC states will ultimately involve themselves in the results of the "savage U.S. aggression" against Libya, the JANA commentary stated. In another development concerning European relations, the Foreign Liaison Bureau asked the Italian ambassador for "clarification" concerning the 6th Fleet's return to bases in Italy, telling the ambassador that Italy should prevent the U.S. fleet from using port facilities given to the United States for NATO purposes, Tripoli television reported.

A commentary by JANA's political editor stressed that striking Al-Qadhafi personally will not eradicate violence but will have the opposite effect.

Italian police have arrested a former Libyan diplomat in connection with a plan to assassinate the U.S. ambassador in Rome last year, Rome radio disclosed.

Maghreb Affairs

Tunisian Security Situation — KUNA reported that a "number" of students and security personnel were injured in clashes at Tunis University 21 April following the killing of a student in a Tunis suburb by state security personnel, who suspected the student of being a thief. These clashes, KUNA noted, followed last week's disturbances at the university in response to the U.S. attack on Libya. In a related development, opposition leader Ahmed Mestiri was imprisoned 21 April following his arrest 16 April on charges of organizing a demonstration in Tunis to protest the U.S. air raids, according to AFP, adding that the date of Mestiri's trial has not been determined.

Algerian President on Libya — While acknowledging past "differences of views" with Libya, the Algerian president, in a speech broadcast by Algiers radio, declared that Algeria nevertheless cast "all differences aside" following the U.S. attack on that country. He asserted that it is the Algerian people's and its leadership's "duty to support" Libya during both "good and hard" times.

Sudan

TMC Chairman General 'Abd al-Rahman Siwar al-Dhahab "will hand over" the command of the Sudanese People's Armed Forces 24 April to the new commander in chief, General Taj al-Din 'Abdallah, according to SUNA. Another SUNA report revealed that the Constituent Assembly's first session will be held 30 April instead of 26 April to allow deputies from southern Sudan to reach Khartoum.

As for the military situation in the south, an SPLA communique broadcast by the SPLA's clandestine radio announced that the town of Pachala, near the Ethiopian border, was captured by the SPLA 19 April. Earlier, military sources cited by the Sudanese Armed Forces' newspaper claimed that over 80 percent of all SPLA forces stationed between Rumbek and Yirol have been killed or wounded, according to SUNA.

OPEC

Ten OPEC member countries have agreed that OPEC production in the 3d and 4th quarters of 1986 will be set at 16.3 and 17.3 mb/d, thereby setting the average output for 1986 "realistically" at 16.7 mb/d, OPEC announced in a press release carried by OPECNA at the conclusion of the 15-21 April meeting in Geneva. However, Algeria, Iran, and Libya considered that OPEC's goal of restoring market stability can only be achieved through lower production levels, the communique noted.

Commenting on the outcome of the meeting in remarks reported by IRNA, the Iranian oil minister stressed Iran's opposition to any decision that fails to assure a steady increase in prices and he described the price war as a "conspiracy" launched by Saudi Arabia and inspired by the United States.

Iran-Iraq War

Iranian naval units "intercepted" seven commercial ships and oil tankers 20 April sailing near the Strait of Hormuz, according to a communique cited by IRNA, and released them after ascertaining that they were not transporting cargo bound for Iraq. In other action, the communique said that the Iraqis sustained 60 casualties in fighting in the western fronts 20 April and that Iran thwarted an Iraqi assault in the Sumar region early 21 April. It also announced that Iraq suffered at least 150 dead and wounded in clashes in the Zobeydah-Bayat area 20 April.

On the Iraqi side, an Iraqi military spokesman reaffirmed Iraq's rejection of recent Iranian claims of a major battle in the Al-Faw region, terming them "mere lies," INA reported. The spokesman also rebutted further Iranian allegations that Iraq is using chemical weapons, asserting that Iraq "has not used" such weapons, and does not have to use them.

Israel-France

AFP, citing "informed" sources, revealed that France has proposed reopening talks with Israel on supplying that country with a nuclear reactor on condition that France be allowed to "replace" the nuclear reactor in Iraq that Israel destroyed in 1981. Prime Minister Shim'on Peres, currently in France, refused to comment on the report following talks with his French counterpart.

Lebanon

A number of kidnapped Europeans were recently transferred from Beirut to the Iranian-controlled Shaykh 'Abdallah barracks in Ba'labakk, Voice of Lebanon radio reported. The radio also stated that artillery shelling of residential areas in East and West Beirut 21 April caused "many" casualties.

DRA

USSR Visit — Council of Ministers Chairman Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand, heading a large delegation, left for Moscow 21 April, BAKHTAR reported.

Mujahidin Losses — Almost 140 mujahidin and civilians were killed in a "major" bombardment of Arghandab, northwest

Qandahar, "last week," AFP reported citing "wounded" persons. For their part, mujahidin sources admitted to 70 deaths and over 100 wounded in fighting to retain their "strategic" base at Zhawar, 12 km from the Pakistani border. In other action, four persons were injured in Qandahar city after two bombs planted by the mujahidin exploded "recently," according to Kabul radio.

Pakistan-DRA

Karachi radio reported that Pakistan lodged a strong protest with the DRA 21 April over two "unprovoked" DRA shelling incidents 19 April in which an Afghan refugee was killed in Khurram Agency.

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Keshtmand-Led Delegation Departs for USSR*LD211531 Kabul BAKHTAR in Pashto 1130 GMT 21 Apr 86*

[Text] Kabul, 21 Apr (BAKHTAR) — Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand, member of the Politburo of the PDPA Central Committee and chairman of the DRA Council of Ministers, heading a high-ranking state delegation left this morning for the USSR at the invitation of the Soviet Government for an official and friendly visit.

A number of the Politburo members and secretaries of the PDPA Central Committee, vice chairmen and members of the Council of Ministers, the head of the DRA Supreme Court, and F.A. Tabeyev, ambassador of the Soviet Union to Kabul, were present at Kabul International airport to see the delegation off.

The delegation accompanying Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand includes: Sarwar Mangal, vice chairman of Council of Ministers and head of the State Planning Committee; Raz Muhammad Paktin, minister of electrical energy; Ahmad Shah Sorkhabi, minister of irrigation and water resources; Muhammad 'Aziz, minister of light industries and foodstuffs; Sayyed Murtaza, head of the management department of the Council of Ministers; Abdul Tawab Zaka'ye, vice minister of foreign affairs; and Abdul Baqi Samandari, deputy finance minister.

Ratebzad Departs for WPC Session in Sofia*LD212238 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 21 Apr 86*

[Text] Anahita Ratebzad, member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and president of the DRA peace, solidarity and friendship organization, left this morning for Bulgaria to participate at a meeting of the World Peace Council Presidium which is due to be held in Sofia.

Muhammad Aslam Watanjar, member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and minister of communications; the deputy head of the department of international affairs of the PDPA Central Committee; and the Bulgarian ambassador in Kabul were present at the Kabul airport departure.

Military Officials Attend Meeting on Recruitment*LD212357 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 20 Apr 86*

[Excerpt] A meeting of members of the Joint Headquarters of the Northern Zone was held today in connection with the implementation of the process of recruitment and call-up and the expansion and consolidation of the DRA Armed Forces.

The meeting was held at the zone headquarters in Konduz city. Present were: Brigadier General Muhammad Rafi, member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers; Major General Shah Nawaz Tanay, CGS; and the deputy ministers of the Internal Affairs Ministry and the Ministry of Nationalities and Tribal Affairs.

At the opening of the meeting, Sher Aqa Seresht, head of the northern zone, spoke about the implementation of the process of recruitment and call-up at the northern zone provinces for the consolidation and expansion of the social bases of the people's revolutionary rule at localities and the realization of the decisions and resolutions of the 16th and 17th PDPA Central Committee plenums and the adoption of serious measures in this regard. Secretaries of the provincial party committee, heads of the executive committees of the Council of the People's Representatives of Konduz, Baghlan, and Badakhshan Provinces and the governor of Takhar then presented reports in connection with the work and activities of their relevant organs.

AFP Details Guerrillas' Casualties in Qandahar*BK220449 Hong Kong AFP in English 0434 GMT 22 Apr 86*

[Excerpt] April 22 (AFP) — Almost 140 guerrillas and civilians were killed in a major bombardment near Qandahar in south Afghanistan last week, according to wounded people reaching Quetta in southwest Pakistan on Monday.

Arghandab, northwest of Qandahar, was the target, with fierce ground fighting and numerous bombardments under way for the past 10 days, they said. Soviet and Afghan army forces held the modern part of the town and the airport, the guerrillas the old town, the witnesses said.

Guerrilla sources meanwhile reported losing 70 men, with more than 100 wounded, in a battle to defend their strategic base at Zhawar a dozen kilometres from the border.

The base commander, receiving treatment at Miran Shah on the Pakistani side, said 5,000 mujahadin had massed to defend what is a traditional major strongpoint commanding one of the guerrillas's most frequented routes. They have been under attack since April 4.

Counterrevolutionaries Detonate Bombs in Qandahar*LD212253 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 21 Apr 86*

[Text] The savage counterrevolutionary elements who claim the Islamic faith recently planted two bombs in the Kherga-e Mobarak Hazrat-e Rasogul in Qandahar city. As a result of the blast, two children, an elderly woman, and an elderly man were injured.

A BAKHTAR correspondent report from Qandahar city that as a result of the explosion of these bombs a large section of Kherga-e Mobarak were destroyed and [words indistinct].

The citizens of Qandahar city seriously condemned this anti-Islamic crime by the rebels who cover their faces with the false mask of Islam, and cursed the perpetrators of this incident and their imperialist bosses headed by the U.S. criminal imperialism under whose instruction the counterrevolutionary elements carry out crimes, terror, and murder in our country.

AFP: Bangladesh Deploys Army Units on Border
BK210913 Hong Kong AFP in English 0843 GMT 21 Apr 86

[Text] New Delhi, April 21 (AFP) — Bangladesh has deployed Army units and ordered mobilisation of all able-bodied villagers near the Bangla-Indian border in south Tripura, PRESS TRUST OF INDIA said Monday. The reported deployment came as tension continued to mount between the two neighbours following India's start of work earlier this month on a river embankment to protect a village housing some 16,000 people.

Quoting intelligence sources, PTI said in its report from Tripura that the units were deployed to backup para-military forces stationed along the western sector of River Muhuri. The agency said all able-bodied villagers in the Pursuram-Kalikapur stretch had been ordered to mobilise as troops began erecting defence positions and digging bunkers.

In the adjoining Feni sector, the Bangladesh Army was put under "full preparedness," the agency said. There was no independent confirmation of the report. "We have no information... This is news to us," Enamul Haq, Bangladesh High Commission spokesman told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE here. Indian federal Defence Ministry spokesmen were not immediately available for comment.

A PTI reporter who toured the area Sunday said he saw 20 bunkers and eight medium machine gun nests on the Bangladesh side. Under an agreement between New Delhi and Dhaka, the international border is to be manned only by para-military forces and not the Army.

New Delhi suspended work on the embankment when Indian Border Security Force (BSF) and the Bangladesh Rifles (BDR) exchanged fire on five occasions after construction began April 9. Dhaka has said construction of the embankment was against the spirit of a bilateral agreement on sharing the waters of rivers flowing through the two countries.

Protest Lodged With Bangladesh Over Border Firing
BK220319 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 22 Apr 86

[Text] A flag meeting between the Border Security Force [BSF] and Bangladesh Rifles [BDR] was held in Belonia in South Tripura District last Sunday [20 April]. The leader of the BSF delegation, Mr B.N. Bhattacharya, lodged a strong protest with his counterpart for the unprovoked firing on Indian territory at Muhuri Char area. Mr Bhattacharya also demanded withdrawal of additional forces and abolition of bunkers on the Bangladesh side to defuse tension. The BDR was represented by Colonel Ali Akbar.

Libya Denies Involvement in Sikh Terrorism
LD191404 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1315 GMT 19 Apr 86

[Text] Tripoli, 19 Apr (JANA) — A source at the People's Committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison has denied allegations published by the Indian newspaper HINDUSTAN

TIMES in its issue today in which it alleges that the Jamahiriya is connected with acts of terrorism by the Sikh movement.

The source says that the committee denies the existence of any connection of the Jamahiriya with any of these acts anywhere in the world, stressing that these allegations have been spread and echoed by American intelligence. The source adds that these fabrications and lies coincide with America's frenzied campaign and its failed attempts to justify its barbaric aggression against our people.

The source voices regret over the fact that this paper has fallen victim to this deceptive American campaign which also seeks to infringe on the leading role of India in the Nonaligned Movement to condemn and expose the barbaric American aggression against the Jamahiriya.

Further Reportage of Nonaligned Ministers Meeting

TANJUG Details Decisions

LD192307 Belgrade TANJUG in English 2025 GMT 19 Apr 86

["Pool" item]

[Text] New Delhi, Apr 19 (PTI) — The ministerial meeting of the Coordinating Bureau of the Non-Aligned Countries tonight achieved a consensus on major issues but on the Gulf war a fresh appeal to Iran and Iraq to restore peace was considered the only acceptable proposition.

The four-day meeting condemned the US bombing of Libyan cities and decided to send a six-member delegation to Tripoli to personally convey the Non-Aligned Movement's solidarity with the Libyan people. The delegation to be led by Indian External Affairs Minister Bali Ram Bhagat, includes the foreign ministers of Cuba, Yugoslavia, Ghana, Congo and Senegal. It leaves for Tripoli tomorrow morning and will also go to New York to take part in the UN deliberations on the issue.

The six-member delegation will hand over copies of the communique adopted at the emergency session of the Coordinating Bureau to the president of the UN General Assembly and the secretary general.

The conference condemned terrorism in all its manifestations and called upon states, particularly Western nations, to forbid recruitment, use of finance, transmit, training and directing of mercenaries.

The conference strongly reaffirmed the principle that outer space — the common heritage of mankind — should be used exclusively for peaceful purposes and for the welfare and interests of all countries.

The foreign ministers welcomed the comprehensive programme for nuclear disarmament put forward by the Soviet Union whose objectives and priorities they noted, were in consonance with the position of the non-aligned countries.

They called for a comprehensive treaty on the complete prohibition of testing, stockpiling, deployment and production of all types of nuclear weapons in all environments by nuclear weapon states.

The foreign ministers expressed deep concern at the increasingly frequent attempts and pressures to weaken the role of the United Nations and depreciated the withholding of financial obligations to the UN.

The conference also laid stress on resolution of disputes between the member countries and reiterated the movement's resolve that Antarctica should not become the objective of international discord and should be accessible to all nations.

Disagreement on Iran-Iraq War

*LD181450 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1238 GMT
18 Apr 86*

[Text] New Delhi, 18 April (TANJUG) — The Political Committee of the Coordinating Bureau has not succeeded to produce the text of the paragraph of the final document concerning the war between Iraq and Iran. The spokesman of the conference of non-aligned in Delhi Parthasarathy has announced that the Political Committee could not agree on the final wording of the text due to objections both by Iraq and Iran. Although the session of the Political Committee lasted more than five hours a compromise was not reached and the whole issue will be taken up at the full plenary session of the Coordinating Bureau Parthasarathy said.

Meanwhile Indian Minister for Foreign Affairs Bhagat met today both the foreign minister of Iran Velayati and Iraq Tariq Aziz in an effort to mediate. He also met foreign ministers of Yugoslavia, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait.

Appeal Made To End War

*LD192255 Belgrade TANJUG in English 2032 GMT
19 Apr 86*

["Pool" item]

[Text] New Delhi, Apr 19 (PTI) — The Non-Aligned movement tonight decided to make a fresh appeal to Iran and Iraq to end their six-year old war. The decision to issue the appeal emerged as a consensus at the ministerial meeting of Coordinating Bureau of the nonaligned countries after hectic consultations during the last four days. The appeal will be made by Indian External Affairs minister Bali Ram Bhagat, while presiding over the concluding session of the bureau meeting scheduled to begin around midnight tonight. The appeal is on the lines of the one made by former Indian premier late Indira Gandhi as chairperson of the nonaligned movement at its seventh summit here in 1983.

The Gulf war, between the two non-aligned countries which began in 1980, has threatened the unity of the movement and it has always been difficult to get the two countries to agree on any formula to end the war.

During the last four days, the Indian delegation has had prolonged consultations with the heads of delegation of both Iran and Iraq and others concerned to find a suitable formulation acceptable to both which could be incorporated in the political declaration.

This evening Bali Ram Bhagat and secretary [words indistinct] made frantic [words indistinct] to Iran and Iraq to agree to the conference issuing a fresh appeal.

The conference sources said that diplomatic efforts would continue to find a formula acceptable to both warring nations and consistent with the ideals of the non-aligned movement.

India has been trying for restoration of peace in the region. Efforts were made in this direction during the visits of Bhagat to Iran, Kuwait and Bahrain. On the eve of the present conference, [name indistinct] had visited Iraq. India's efforts appeared optimistic last year, but the conflict escalated. Iran had rejected the peace moves by the United Nations, the Security Council and Islamic Conference.

Chemical Warfare Guidelines Approved

*GF190703 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT
19 Apr 86*

[Text] The Islamic Republic of Iran's recommendations at the current session of the Nonaligned Movement (NAM) foreign ministers' session — based on the greater need for a ban on the use, production, and stockpiling of chemical weapons and the fact that the Iraqi regime has widely used these armaments in the imposed war recently — were approved for addition to the agenda of this session's political committee.

One of the members of the participating Iranian delegation on the political committee stated: Although it has been only a few years since the Islamic Republic of Iran joined NAM, it has played an active role in policymaking and in other issues. He added: The Islamic Republic of Iran has submitted a resolution on the ecological dangers of the use of chemical weapons to the political committee.

Economic issues pertaining to the raw materials of the Third World, oil, the deliverance of the Third World from economic exploitation, and the need for releasing the raw materials and resources market of the Third World from the control of the wholesale buyers are among other proposals of the Iranian delegation to the political committee of the seventh NAM foreign ministers' session.

According to this report, the issue of the security of the Mediterranean and U.S. aggression against Libya also came under discussion by the political-economic committee and the Syrian Government suggested that a high-level NAM delegation should go to Tripoli and subsequently, to New York, at the conclusion of the current session to state the NAM stance at the UN Security Council. This proposal was approved by the political-economic committee.

PLO's Qaddumi Addresses Meeting

GF181955 Aden Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1820 GMT
18 Apr 86

[Text] Brother Abu al-Lutuf [Faruq Qaddumi], director of the PLO Political Department, delivered the PLO speech before the ministerial meeting of the Nonaligned Coordinating Bureau currently meeting in New Delhi. At the beginning of his speech he greeted India and its prime minister for their principled positions on supporting the Palestinian issue. He referred to the complicated international pressures which our world is experiencing that presage dangerous results, not only in the framework of the movement but also on the world peoples.

Brother Abu al-Lutuf called on the Nonaligned Movement to play a major role in preventing the continuous deterioration in international relations. He called on the Nonaligned Movement to make the Harare summit a major step in consolidating international cooperation and in tackling the chronic economic and political problems within the framework of the special importance of the international disputes, such as the issue of armament and disarmament. [sentence as heard] He called on the movement to strengthen the principle of unity and cooperation, activate the bases of development among member countries, promote collective independence, back the establishment of an economic and currency system, and encourage a North-South dialogue and South-South economic cooperation to confront the economic, scientific, and technical onslaught — thus ending the pillaging of the peoples' wealth.

Brother Abu al-Lutuf referred to the perfidious U.S. aggression on fraternal Libya and announced the PLO's denunciation of this malicious aggression. He stressed the PLO's solidarity with the Libyan people on their legitimate right to defend their sovereignty and independence. He called for working to convert the Mediterranean into an area of peace.

Brother Abu al-Lutuf referred to the continuous Zionist aggression against the Palestinian people, against their rights and against the PLO, their sole, legitimate representative. He held the United States and Israel responsible for obstructing the efforts of the Nonaligned Movement and international efforts to attain peace based on recognizing the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people, including their rights to return home, self-determination, and the establishment of an independent Palestinian state on their national soil. He then assailed the U.S. position toward our Palestinian people and their inalienable national rights.

Brother Abu al-Lutuf referred to the brutal Israeli practices against our people as a result of Israel's implementation of the iron fist policy, and the acts of repression, terrorism, arrest, torture, mass expulsion, land confiscation, demolition of houses, building of new settlements, and Israel's policy of racial discrimination, in addition to the acts of Judaizing and obliterating pan-Arab historical features and the desecration of religious sanctities.

Brother Abu al-Lutuf declared our people's legitimate rights to use all available methods to resist occupation on the path of

forcibly regaining their inalienable national rights, no matter how great the sacrifices.

He affirmed that the establishment of a lasting and just peace in the Middle East can only be achieved by total Israeli withdrawal from the occupied Palestinian Arab territories and the recognition of the inalienable national rights of the Palestinian people, including their right to return to their homeland, self-determination, and the establishment of an independent state on their national soil.

Brother Abu al-Lutuf added: We believe that the best solution will be through an international conference under UN supervision, independent PLO participation on an equal footing with the other parties to the conflict, and the participation of the USSR, the United States, and the other permanent members of the UN Security Council.

He referred to the suffering of the heroic Lebanese people as a result of Israel's occupation of part of Lebanon, and as a result of U.S. commitment to the Israeli policy of aggression. He condemned the brutal raids to which our Palestinian people in Lebanon are subjected and which are aimed at exterminating them, while the international community refrains from extending to them any guarantees or protection of their security and their legitimate right to life.

Brother Abu al-Lutuf criticized the Nonaligned Movement because of its inability to achieve a peaceful formula concerning the Iraq-Iran conflict which flared up recently and whose destructive effects exceed all limits and description.

In conclusion, he asserted the PLO's solidarity with the struggle of the Latin American peoples for the sake of liberty and independence. He condemned the policy of intervention and pressure which the United States is practicing against the region. He also asserted the PLO's solidarity with the struggle of the peoples of South Africa and Namibia against colonialism and all forms of racial discrimination.

Address by Nicaraguan Foreign Minister

BK191416 Hong Kong AFP in English 1401 GMT 19 Apr 86

[Excerpts] New Delhi, April 19 (AFP) — Libya and Nicaragua both fired broadsides at the United States Saturday with the Libyan Foreign Minister telling a non-aligned movement meeting that "direct blows" should be aimed at the United States everywhere.

The previous speaker, Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Miguel D'Escoto Brockman, accused the United States of unparalleled "savagery" in seeking to dominate other nations. Washington had proclaimed its right to lead covert actions against other governments, he said, but this was merely a "euphemism for murder, abductions, and terrorist actions perpetrated by gangs of murderers." He asked the forum: "Has a greater aberration, a greater savagery ever been seen?" The bombing of Libya was "reprehensible" and showed up the "neo-Fascism" of U.S. President Ronald Reagan.

Mr D'Escoto Brockman attacked the "insatiable greed" of U.S. economic domination and said that Mr Reagan had sent a clear message to Latin American countries: "Don't try to free yourselves, because you will suffer a lot."

He offered the Nicaraguan capital Managua as the site for the ninth non-aligned summit to be held in 1989, after the summit in Harare, Zimbabwe, this September. The selection of Managua would be a "deserved stimulus to our people to carry on the fight that has been going on in our country since 1979," he said.

Mexican Delegate's Speech

FL191628 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0445 GMT
19 Apr 86

[Text] New Delhi, 18 Apr (NOTIMEX) — Victor Flores Olea, deputy secretary of multilateral affairs, has said it is everyone's responsibility to check the tendency for self-destruction and we can spare no effort in favor of good sense and rationality.

During the ministerial meeting of the Coordinating Bureau of Nonaligned Countries, the Mexican diplomat said life on earth is threatened by a limitless arms race. He said militarism has sacrificed the development of countries and the current crisis is not foreign to the generation of modern instruments of death. Because of this, said Flores Olea, the fundamental task of the Nonaligned Movement should be the common struggle against the arms race to achieve complete independence and self-determination for a true international democracy.

Flores Olea said Mexico, Argentina, Greece, India, Switzerland and Tanzania — the Group of Six — have promoted a constructive role in favor of disarmament at international forums and have doubled their efforts to end the arms race.

The Mexican representative stressed that his government has said the violation of any state's sovereignty, independence, and territorial integrity cannot be justified, regardless of the reason.

In reference to Central America, Flores Olea stressed it is essential to restore law in the area in order to achieve agreements on all questions of common interest. He said the Contadora Act for peace and cooperation in Central America, which is based on a clear political decision, is a valid instrument to establish a regional order respectful of the democratic plurality of nations.

Finally, the Mexican diplomat said Latin America's efforts in favor of a negotiated solution to the Central American conflict has initiated a new era in inter-American relations for peace and cannot be submitted to the arbitrary will of power. To complete this task, added Flores Olea, it is necessary for all nonaligned countries to close ranks and increase solidarity and political action.

Further on Mangwende Speech

MB170757 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0140 GMT
17 Apr 86

[Text] Harare, April 17, SAPA — The Zimbabwean minister of foreign affairs, Dr Witness Mangwende, today appealed to the international community to give diplomatic, material and moral assistance to the "liberation movements" of southern Africa.

In an address to a plenary session of the ministerial meeting of the Coordinating Bureau of Non-aligned Movement (NAM) countries in New Delhi, a copy of which was released in Harare, Dr Mangwende said the situation in southern Africa was too dangerous and "must urgently be resolved."

"It is therefore essential that we redouble our diplomatic, material and moral assistance to the liberation movements. The PAC, ANC and SWAPO be expected to carry the struggle through with resolutions and solidarity messages alone, important though these may be. They need concrete material support," he said.

He appealed to all member states to meet their obligations towards the "suffering masses" of South Africa and SWA/Namibia by contributing to the NAM fund for SWA/Namibia and other UN programmes for southern Africa. "The carnage in South Africa is now reaching genocidal proportions and it should not be taken for granted that the non-racial societies in Africa, and the world in general, can remain unaffected forever by what is going on in that country.

He accused Pretoria of continuing its policy of destabilisation of the independent states in the region. "As the struggle has intensified inside South Africa itself, so too has the regime intensified its acts of aggression, subversion and sabotage against its neighbours," he said.

He also accused Pretoria of threatening to invade Botswana and Zimbabwe and of continuously polluting the airwaves with notorious broadcasts of "hate and subversion." "Targetted at my country is the so-called Radio Truth, which tries to rouse racial and tribal animosities within Zimbabwe," he noted.

On Namibia, Dr Mangwende called on the U.S. not to give respectability to the "racist" intentions of South Africa by linking SWA/Namibian independence to the presence of Cuban troops in Angola. Commenting on U.S. aid to UNITA, he said "this does not serve the interests of the Angolan people, nor the majority of South African or Namibia people, but antagonises the rest of Africa."

Dr Mangwende said there was "little hope" in southern Africa and the region had slipped further towards the precipice, "both as a result of developments in the region as well as decisions taken by outside forces."

Protest Lodged With DRA Over 19 April Shelling
BK211535 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT
 21 Apr 86

[Text] The Afghan Armed Forces fired three tank shells on Saturday morning [19 April], which fell in the Lakka Tiga area of the Khurram Agency, as a result of which one Afghan refugee was killed. Later, in the afternoon of the same day, the Afghan Armed Forces fired 53 artillery shells, which fell in the (Kotghai) area 8 miles west of Parachinar.

The Afghan charge d'affaires was summoned to the Foreign Office in Islamabad this afternoon. A strong protest was lodged with him on these unprovoked attacks.

Visiting PRC Vice Minister Meets Zia, Junejo
BK220132 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT
 21 Apr 86

[Text] The Chinese vice minister for machine building industry, Mr Zhao Mingsheng, called on President Mohammad Ziaul Haq in Rawalpindi this evening. They exchanged views on bilateral relations and matters of mutual interest. The president appreciated the assistance being provided by China for the industrial and economic development of Pakistan.

The Chinese vice minister also called on the prime minister, Mr Mohammad Khan Junejo. He informed the prime minister that a proposal for the expansion of the heavy mechanical complex and the heavy forge and foundry complex at Taxila was under consideration by the Chinese Government. The expansion will help ensure optimum production at the two complexes, providing a fillip to the industrial and economic progress of Pakistan.

Mr Mohammad Khan Junejo appreciating the Chinese assistance in the economic and (structural) fields expressed the hope that cooperation between the two countries would continue to grow. He requested the Chinese vice minister to convey his good wishes to the Chinese prime minister, Mr Zhao Ziyang.

Reportage on Visit of Saudi Crown Prince

Arrives 19 Apr

BK191612 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT
 19 Apr 86

[Text] The Saudi Arabian crown prince, Sultan ibn Sulayman, arrived in Islamabad this afternoon on a 5-day visit to Pakistan. He was the first Muslim astronaut when he went into space aboard the American spacecraft *Discovery* in June last year.

Speaking to newsmen at the airport he said Muslim scientists should make concerted efforts to find ways to achieve development in the field of technology, including space technology. Sultan ibn Sulayman said Pakistan should take the initiative in space technology as it has an adequate number of efficient

scientists. He also referred to the noteworthy relations between Pakistan and Saudi Arabia.

Meets With Prime Minister

BK201634 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT
 20 Apr 86

[Text] Saudi crown prince, Sultan ibn Sulayman, and his delegation held a formal meeting with the prime minister in Rawalpindi this evening. The prime minister welcomed him for being the first astronaut to bring great honor and pride to the Muslim world. The prince told of his experiences in 7 days of space travel. Federal minister for science and technology, Hamid Nasir Chatha, hosted a dinner in honor of the distinguished guest in Islamabad last night.

Honored by Ziaul Haq

BK210519 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT
 20 Apr 86

[Text] President Mohammad Ziaul Haq decorated Prince Sultan ibn Sulayman ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz Al Sa'ud with Hilal-i Pakistan at a special investiture ceremony in Rawalpindi this evening. The award was conferred in recognition of his outstanding services to the cause of the Muslim ummah [community] and expression of the deep appreciation of the people and Government of Pakistan for scientific adventure and outstanding role as the first Muslim astronaut. Prince Sultan ibn Sulayman ventured into space on board U.S. space shuttle *Discovery* last year. He remained in space for 8 days in a number of scientific experiments.

Earlier, Prince Sultan ibn Sulayman had a meeting with the president and exchanged views on matters of mutual interest. Prince Sultan along with his delegation also paid a courtesy call on the prime minister in Rawalpindi this evening. The prince described his experiences of 7 day's journey in the orbit to the prime minister.

Junejo Asserts Right To Acquire Nuclear Technology
BK221021 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT
 22 Apr 86

[Excerpt] The prime minister, Mr Mohammad Khan Junejo, laid the foundation stone of the Center for Nuclear Medicine and Radiotherapy in Quetta today. Speaking on the occasion, he said acquisition of nuclear technology is the basic right of Pakistan and nobody can deny it to us. We need nuclear technology for health, agriculture, energy and other sectors.

The prime minister said Pakistan wants to promote nuclear technology for peaceful purposes and has no other objective. The nuclear technology is not only a more developed system for diagnosis but is also helpful in the treatment of cancer and other complicated ailments.

BANGLADESH

Opposition Says Ershad Violates Election Neutrality
*BK190553 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT
19 Apr 86*

[Text] In Bangladesh, the Awami League president, Sheikh Hasina, has accused President Ershad of violating his commitment to maintain neutrality in the next month's parliamentary elections. She alleged that President Ershad is using official media for campaigning for the candidates of the progovernment Jatiya Party.

Foreign Secretary on Border Issue With India
BK210655 Dhaka BSS in English 0635 GMT 21 Apr 86

[Text] Dhaka, April 21 BSS — Bangladesh Foreign Secretary Faruq Ahmed Chowdhury yesterday expressed the hope that the Muhurir Char issue could be amicably sorted out with New Delhi at the technical level. He was talking to reporters at the airport after attending the non-aligned foreign ministers meeting which was held at the Indian capital New Delhi. He said India had not ratified the land boundary agreement of 1974 which was signed between the prime ministers of Bangladesh and India providing that neither side should undertake construction to change the course of the river.

Meanwhile, Bangladesh has strongly protested against construction of revetments by India along the Muhuri River and on the Muhurir Char inside Bangladesh territory.

SRI LANKA

Foreign Minister Briefs Jayewardene on Gandhi Talks
*BK211143 Colombo International Service in English
1045 GMT 21 Apr 86*

[Text] Foreign Minister A.C.S. Hameed yesterday briefed President Jayewardene on his meeting with Indian Premier Rajiv

Gandhi where he presented Sri Lanka's new proposals to end the Tamil ethnic conflict.

Also present at the meeting was National Security Minister Lalith Athulathmudali.

Mr Hameed, who returned to Colombo on Saturday night, is learned to have conveyed to President Jayewardene Premier Gandhi's assurance that the proposals would be carefully studied and the Tamil groups consulted.

It is only thereafter the next phase would be known.

Mr Hameed, who went to New Delhi to attend the Nonaligned Coordinating Bureau meeting, had a brief meeting with Premier Gandhi on Friday during which he handed over the new proposals.

6 Soldiers, 'Several Terrorists' Killed
*BK211133 Colombo International Service in English
1045 GMT 21 Apr 86*

[Text] Six soldiers and several terrorists were killed in a gun battle which followed a terrorist attack on an Army patrol leaving Thondamanar camp in Jaffna around 0800 [0230 GMT] this morning.

According to LANKA PUWATH the terrorists had launched the attack taking cover in the [words indistinct] left Thondamanar.

They had used mortars, rocket propelled grenades, and automatic weapons in the attack.

The terrorists had later set fire to the temple chariot in an effort to discredit the security forces.

LANKA PUWATH reports that the citizens committee at Thondomanar had refused to meet the security forces to discuss the damage caused to the (?coble) in the terrorist attack.

Majlis Speaker: U.S. Raid Aimed at All Islamic States
LD201225 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT
 20 Apr 86

[Excerpts] According to a report of a Central News Unit correspondent, a large Labbayk-ya Imam convoy from Tehran composed of seven divisions of engineering-technical forces from ministries, foundations, state companies, the Majlis, and educational centers was sent off for the warfronts this morning by the Majlis speaker and deputies, the prime minister and the Cabinet, state, and judicial officials and a large crowd of Tehran citizens.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani, Majlis speaker and the imam's representative to the Supreme Defense Council, noted the pure enthusiasm and human compassion of the volunteer forces and stressed the epic-making glory of the large Labbayk-ya Imam convoy. He said: 'Volunteers on the road to Karbala', you are now the guarantors of the credibility and greatness of the administration of the Islamic Republic of Iran. Your presence at the warfronts and your devotion to the task of technical problems will add to the effectiveness of the many divisions of battle-tested forces and will preserve the lives of thousands of warriors who need your expertise and knowledge.

Commenting on the U.S. aggression against the Libyan Islamic nation, the imam's representative to the Supreme Defense Council said: 'We must realize that this move by the United States is directed not only against Libya but is also aimed at many other nations, particularly Islamic nations. The Islamic Revolution has frightened the arrogants' hearts so much that they are always conspiring against Islam and its revolution.'

Hashemi-Rafsanjani then praised the Iranian Government for continuing to make extensive resources available to the warriors and expressed his hope that the paths to Karbala' and Jerusalem will be opened up as soon as possible through the coordinated efforts of the Armed Forces, Guards Corps, Basij forces, and the administration, as well as all committed forces and the 'unprecedented support of the people under the leadership of the imam of the nation. [slogans, chants]

Khamene'i: No 'Military Move' Against Kuwait
LD211218 Tehran IRNA in English 1035 GMT 21 Apr 86

[Text] Tehran, April 21, IRNA — President 'Ali Khamene'i declared here Monday that the Islamic Republic of Iran had no intention to make a military move against Kuwait, Qatar or any other regional country. Addressing a gathering of the officials of construction jihad from throughout the country, the president added that the Islamic Republic of Iran believed that countries with different systems of government could enjoy a peaceful coexistence. He stressed that only an adventurist and aggressor regime such as the one ruling Iraq has no respect for security and commit aggressions against others.

On the Iraqi imposed war, the president who is also the head of the Supreme Defence Council, said that the Islamic Forces of Iran were better organized and enjoyed greater unity and competency than before. He stressed that the Iraqi aggression should be repelled once and for all.

Although reactionary regimes in the region and even those outside the region were in practice intending to hinder advance of the Islamic movement of Iran, they have now realized that the Iraqi regime was the main source of problem in the region.

He hailed services of the construction jihad members at war fronts saying that they have been playing a key role in the battlefields. Minister of Construction Jihad Bizhan Namdar Zanganeh and Imam Khomeyni's representative to the organization Hojjat ol-Eslam Nuri were also present at the gathering.

Khamene'i Message to Islamic States on 'Aggression'
LD211821 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT
 21 Apr 86

["Text" of message from President Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i to the heads of Islamic countries in connection with the U.S. aggression against Libya]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. May Allah's peace and mercy be upon you all. Today, more than ever before, the world of Islam is exposed to aggression from global arrogance headed by the United States, the arch-satan. No doubt the heavy responsibility of safeguarding the interests of more than 1 billion Muslims in the world rests on the shoulders of the leaders of the Islamic countries. The recent barbaric U.S. attacks on cities and residential areas of the Islamic state of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya and the massacre of dozens of Libyan civilians added another black page to the shameful history of the U.S. Government and once again proved that its conspiratorial assaults, disguised as struggle against terrorism, are nothing but deceptive moves to cover up the state terrorism of the U.S. Government. And the oppressed nations of the world have well understood these satanic moves.

The decisive stance of the Islamic states regarding such a horrific crime at this sensitive point in time is in fact a great historical test which will be reflected in the pages of history of the Islamic world and will no doubt have a well-deserved influence on future policies of the U.S. criminals.

The Islamic Republic of Iran has declared its decisive stance in support of the Islamic state of the Libyan Jamahiriya and has strongly condemned the barbaric U.S. move. It is prepared to cooperate to find a way to take practical measures against the aggressor. It [Iran] also expects that you, through your decisive stance toward this barbaric aggression against an Islamic nation and the massacre, and through your practical measure to combat it, will play your role in defending the sacred sanctum of the Islamic ummah and will strengthen the unity of the world Muslims in their confrontation against the enemies of Islam. No doubt, silence about the aggression of the terrorist U.S. Government against the territory of the Islamic state of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, will encourage them to launch a military aggression on the Islamic state of Libya again, and also against other Islamic countries under vague pretexts and whenever they deem it necessary. No doubt, if the Islamic countries had directly adopted a decisive stance against attacks by the occupying Jerusalem regime on the Palestinian headquarters in Tunisia and the previous attacks of the U.S. planes on the Gulf of Sidra, and

if they had resorted to some practical measures against U.S. interests, and had stopped exporting their oil — the wealth of the Islamic world — to the United States, we would not have witnessed the repeat of this blatant crime against the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya today.

I take this opportunity to beseech Almighty God to grant greater honor to the world Muslims and may He bring defeat and abjectness to the enemies of Islam.

[Signed] Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, president of the Islamic Republic of Iran

Iran: Economy Not Affected by Oil Price Slump

LD191456 Tehran IRNA in English 1817 GMT 19 Apr 86

[Text] Tehran, April 19, IRNA — Minister of Economic and Financial Affairs Mohammad Javad Irvani said here Saturday that the oil price conspiracy has not and nor will it affect the Islamic Republic of Iran. Speaking in a conference on economic affairs held here Saturday, he said the plot will only help the country boost its economic potential through cutting its dependence on oil exports. The oil price slump will not affect Iran's military programmes and nor it will prevent it from providing basic goods or continuing basic projects, Irvani said.

The economic and financial affairs minister called on participants in the conference to further study ways to increase domestic agricultural products and expand domestic industries. He also urged them to find a way to substitute oil exports with non-oil exports.

Acting deputy minister of economic and financial affairs, Br. Mahdi was the next speaker who said that the wholesale price index and price of consumer goods (?increased) only 5.5 and four percent in the last Iranian year (ended March 21). Therefore, he said, the government has managed to control the inflation rate despite the Iraqi imposed war and numerous conspiracies hatched by the global arrogance. He noted that such success has never been made by other countries similarly involved in war. The conference will issue a resolution at the end of its work on Monday.

Reportage on Visit of SWAPO Official

Meets With Rafiqdust

LD181758 Tehran IRNA in English 1844 GMT 17 Apr 86

[Text] Tehran, April 17, IRNA — Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps (IRGC) Minister Mohsen Rafiqdust Thursday said that Iran is bound to help all oppressed people in their struggle against global arrogance. In a meeting with visiting deputy for foreign relations department and member of the South-West African People's Organization (SWAPO) Eron Shehpo here, Rafiqdust expressed support for the Namibian people's righteous struggle led by SWAPO. IRGC minister said Iran and SWAPO have a joint enemy namely the apartheid regime of South Africa.

Eron Shehpo in return lauded Iran's stand vis-a-vis the Namibian people's campaign against South Africa. Shehpo said SWAPO expects the Islamic Republic to help the Namibian people. Practical ways for Namibia's independence was also discussed in the meeting. Meanwhile, Eron Shehpo met and conferred with acting Foreign Minister 'Ali Mohammad Besharati here on the same day. The SWAPO official announced support of his organization and its leader Sam Nujoma for the Islamic revolution. In return, Besharati called for continuation of armed struggle of the Namibian people until complete independence is achieved. Besharati condemned U.S. invasion of Libya and Nicaragua. He also expressed hope that SWAPO's office in Tehran would be opened soon.

Confers With Sheikh ol-Eslam

LD200531 Tehran IRNA in English 1529 GMT 19 Apr 86

[Text] Tehran, April 19, IRNA — Visiting Deputy for Foreign Relations Department and Member of the South West African People's organization (SWAPO) Eron Shehpo met and conferred with the Iranian deputy Foreign Minister for Foreign Affairs Husayn Sheikh ol-Eslam on South African apartheid regime's aggression and atrocities against its black majority population as well as the Namibian issue. The SWAPO official hailed president 'Ali Khamene'i's visit to the Frontline African states as well as Iran's support for the struggles of the people of the African Continent.

Sheikh ol-Eslam said that the unrelenting struggle of the South African people against the apartheid regime in Pretoria will one day be victorious in bringing down that regime, and that the disenfranchised black majority will rule its [words indistinct]. The Islamic Republic of Iran is prepared to help SWAPO and Namibian nation in economic, political [words indistinct] Sheikh ol-Eslam said. He expressed hope that SWAPO leader Sam Nujoma will soon pay a visit to the Islamic Republic of Iran.

DPRK's Kang Song-san Postpones Visit Due to Illness

LD190631 Tehran IRNA in English 0621 GMT 19 Apr 86

[Text] Tehran, April 19, IRNA — The scheduled visit of the Prime Minister of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Kang Song-san, to Tehran has been postponed, said the Public Relations Office of the Prime Minister's Office in a Statement issued here Friday. The statement added that according to DPRK's Government the postponement of the trip was due to illness of Prime Minister Kang Song-San. The North Korean Prime minister was scheduled to arrive in Tehran Saturday for a state visit.

Further on Convoys, Volunteers Departing for Fronts

Convoy From Qom, Yazd

LD201331 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 20 Apr 86

[Excerpts] The third Karbala' marchers' convoy, composed of two brigades of expert and combat forces, departed from Qom

for the fronts today. The warrior sons of Islam from Yazd Province who make up the first Labayk-ya Imam convoy, with an enthusiastic sendoff by the grateful people of Yazd, today departed for the fronts of the war against the Zionist enemy. In response to the call of the imam of the nation, more than 5,000 combat forces from the cities of Yazd, Ardakan, Mehriz, Baft, Taft, Melibod, Dasht-e Zar, Zark, Mahabad, Pishkuh, Posht kuh, Herat [words indistinct], came together in a special ceremony which was staged in the grounds of the Martyr Paknezhad school in Yazd and then departed for the battlefronts in order to participate in the battle against the Zionist rulers ruling over Iraq.

Battalions From Shahrud, Damghan

LD210411 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0230 GMT 20 Apr 86

[Text] The fifth Karbala marchers' convoy of Shahrud, consisting of one division of specialized combat and training forces, set off for the war regions of the country amid a warm send-off by the alert inhabitants of this city. Two battalions consisting of specialized combat forces of Damghan set off for the battlefronts of war with the Zionist enemy yesterday afternoon amid the enthusiastic send-off of this town's inhabitants.

Civil Servants, Workers

LD210416 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0230 GMT 20 Apr 86

[Text] In continuation of the departure of civil servants to the battlefronts of the imposed war, more than 150 deputies, managers, and experts from the Industries Ministry yesterday afternoon during a ceremony departed for the fronts. This is the third Karbala' marchers' convoy of the employees of this ministry that has gone to the fronts. Also, the first convoy of Labayk ya Imam, comprising a group of employees from the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs yesterday set off for the fronts and was seen off by the minister and other ministry experts. More than 500 workers of Iran Khodro yesterday departed for the battlefronts during a ceremony for sending assistance to the combatants of Islam. Also according to our report, a large group of employees from the Islamic Guidance Ministry; the Ministry of Culture and Higher Education; the Ministry of Mines and Metals; the Ministry of Health, Training and Medical Training; the Ministry of Agriculture; the Atomic Energy Organization; the National Steel Company of Iran; the State Services Organization; the Technical Training Center of Tehran; and the Plastro-Kar and Production Plants of Tehran affiliated to the Foundation of the Meed, set off for the battlefronts yesterday.

2,000 Karbala' Marchers

LD211247 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 21 Apr 86

[Summary] This morning the fourth convey of Karbala' marchers left Mahabad for the war fronts. This convoy of 2,000 was seen off by large crowds.

Tabriz, Orumiye, Semnan Convoys

LD212338 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 20 Apr 86

[Summary] Our correspondents report from Eastern and Western Azarbayjan that the second Labbayk ya Imam convoy comprised of some 8,000 people from various walks of life left Tabriz for the battle-fronts. They were warmly seen off by large crowds of people. The first Labbayk ya Imam convoy comprised of 2,300 volunteers left Orumiye for the fronts. Also, the first Labbayk ya Imam convoy of Semnan Province made up of two divisions and comprised of 2,800 people from that province left Semnan for battlefronts.

Shelling of Iraqi Border Cities Denied

LD220824 Tehran IRNA in English 0645 GMT 22 Apr 86

[Text] Tehran, April 22, IRNA — Iran Tuesday categorically denied Iraqi claims alleging Iran of having shelled Iraqi border cities and townships on Monday. A spokesman for the War Information Headquarters (WIH) told IRNA that the Iraqi regime made the allegations in its 2196th military communique. The communique claimed that a housing complex in Chuwartah as well as two villages of Biyarah and Tuwaylah, and the vicinity of the city of Khanaqin were hit by the Iranian long-range artillery.

The spokesman described the allegations as "mere fabrications", adding that no Iraqi border city was hit by the Islamic Forces of Iran Monday. He stressed that whenever Iranian combatants achieved new victories in the battlefields, the Baghdad regime would make such fabrications to overshadow Iran's triumph.

Reportage on Combat Operations in War With Iraq

Communique No 2,446

LD201927 Tehran IRNA in English 1635 GMT 20 Apr 86

[Text] Tehran, April 20, IRNA — An Iraqi helicopter trying to approach Iranian positions in Sharhani, southern fronts, Saturday was shot down by surface-to-air fire of Muslim forces of Iran, according to a military communique here Sunday.

Communique number 2446 of the Joint staff Command of the Armed Forces says that nine tanks, one bulldozer and several Iraqi vehicles were destroyed and their crews killed in Zobeydah, southern fronts, by the artillery fire of Iranian forces.

In the western fronts, the communique says, at least 15 Iraqi soldiers were killed or wounded and one tank, one artillery piece, four bunkers and two observation posts of theirs were demolished during exchange of artillery fire with Iranian muslim combatants.

The communique says that heavy artillery fire of Iranian Muslim forces on industrial centers of Iraqi townships of Banmil and Naft Khaneh inflicted substantial damage on them.

In the northwestern fronts, exchange of artillery fire continued sporadically between Muslim forces and Iraqi troops. Iranian combatants despatched patrol units and shelled enemy positions killing or wounding a number of Iraqi soldiers and destroying several of their bunkers and observation posts. Ten munitions dumps of Iraqi forces were also set ablaze, according to the communique.

In Abadan Iranian gendarmerie forces silenced the Iraqi artillery and disrupted their combat-engineering operations. A number of Iraqi soldiers were also killed and or wounded, the communique says. Meanwhile, Iraqi long range artillery fire hit the city of Abadan Saturday injuring two Iranian civilians and damaging several houses.

Communique No 2,447

LD221650 Tehran IRNA in English 1619 GMT 21 Apr 85

[Text] Tehran, April 21, IRNA — Iran's naval forces intercepted seven commercial ships and oil tankers which were sailing under various flags near the Hormuz Strait Sunday, but released them later after being satisfied that there were no Iraqi bound goods aboard the liners, according to a military communique here Monday.

Communique Number 2447 of the Joint Staff Command of the Armed Forces says that at least 60 Iraqi soldiers were killed or wounded and two tanks together with five light and heavy vehicles of theirs were destroyed in sporadic clashes with Iranian Muslim combatants in the western fronts Sunday.

The command says that heavy artillery fire of Iranian Muslim forces smashed an Iraqi assault in Sumar early Monday inflicting substantial casualties and damage on them and forcing them to retreat. Iraqi soldiers taken captive in the smashed assault confessed that a battalion of 425th Brigade and a command company had sustained heavy casualties and losses.

In Qasr-e Shirin, the communique says, an Iraqi patrol unit sustained heavy casualties and was forced to flee by Iranian artillery fire. It also says that heavy fire of Iranian anti-aircraft units halted reconnaissance flight of helicopters in the western fronts.

The communique says that heavy artillery fire of Iranian forces on Iraqi industrial centers in Banmil and Naft Khaneh inflicted considerable damage on them.

In heavy clashes with Iraqi troops in Zobeydat and Bayat, both in southern fronts twice early Sunday, Iranian ground and gendarmerie forces crushed Iraqi operations and killed or wounded at least 150 enemy soldiers in Bayat.

Iranian Muslim forces, the communique says, checked movement of Iraqi armoured unit and their engineering operations in Nahr-Anbar and in west of Jofeyr and elsewhere in Panjwin they prevented movement of Iraqi tanks.

Iraqi forces sustained substantial losses in the northwestern fronts Sunday, says the military communique. Long range artil-

lery fire of Iraqi forces on the city of Abadan, Khuzestan Province, caused some damage.

'Close Watch' Kept on U.S. Destroyer

LD221124 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 22 Apr 86

[Text] Iranian naval vessels yesterday stopped 17 commercial vessels, oil tankers and tugboats of various nationalities near the Strait of Hormuz. After inspecting them and making sure that they were not carrying cargo for the Iraqi regime, they were allowed to continue on their way.

This morning, in an interview with IRNA, stressing that all vessels, including commercial vessels and oil tankers, are kept under daily control in the Strait of Hormuz, Navy Commander Captain Malekzadegan said that: Vessels belonging to arrogant powers, including the U.S. destroyer *Benjamin*, which are in the region of the Strait of Hormuz and outside Iran's territorial waters, are kept under close watch. They have been told not to enter the area designed by us. He added: In addition to vessels, the Navy carries out air reconnaissance and patrols using naval aircraft, deep inside the Persian Gulf.

Referring to the successful mining in the mouth of Khur Abdulah up to Umm Qasr, the Navy commander said: So far, about four enemy naval vessels have been destroyed after colliding with mines. Their wrecks can be seen in the area. He then referred to the recent joint naval exercise in the north of the Persian Gulf. He said: This was a very good exercise; we were able to evaluate the strength and efficiency of our units much better than in the previous exercise.

Referring to the efficiency of the Navy in the "Val-Fajr-8" operational theater, he said: Owing to the limited scope of the operations, the Navy used a small number of vessels. He added: We have a large number of its vessels. They are capable of operating up to 5 to 6 miles from the shore. [as heard] He finally said: Considering the limits on the scope of operations, we have mostly used marines and hovercrafts. Our large vessels, including destroyers over 3,000 tons, are present in the area. We are keeping them prepared for naval operations along the 3,000 kilometers of our coastline.

Iraq Uses Gas in Al-Faw

LD210854 Tehran IRNA in English 0655 GMT 21 Apr 86

[Text] Ahvaz, Khuzestan Prov., April 21, IRNA — The Iraqi regime extensively deployed chemical weapons in the Al-Faw operational theater Sunday Monday morning, injuring a number of Islamic forces of Iran. The injured are under treatment in field hospitals stationed in the region.

The Iraqi regime resumed deployment of chemical weapons after its forces sustained another heavy blow in the northern Al-Faw peninsula Sunday evening. However, Iraqi statesmen who recently attended a conference of foreign ministers of non-aligned countries in New Delhi failed to make any achievement in favour of their vicious objectives. The U.N. Security Council

and the world public opinion have so far condemned the Iraqi regime for its repeated deployment of chemicals against Iranian combatants.

Iraqis in Al-Faw 'Wiped Out'

LD220931 Tehran IRNA in English 0825 GMT 22 Apr 86

[Text] Tehran, April 22, IRNA — The Iraqi forces who tried in vain to infiltrate positions of the Islamic Forces of Iran in "Val-Fajr-8" operational theater, Al-Faw region, in the past two days were totally smashed, said an operational commander of the Islamic combatants of Iran in an interview with IRNA in the area, Monday.

The Iraqi regime has sent reinforcements to the area, three brigades of its first and second divisions, to challenge the Iranian forces. However, he added, they were wiped out totally something that the Iraqi commanders could not foresee.

He added that in its latest attempt the Iraqi forces suffered 4,500 casualties and the remainder fled the battlefields leaving behind

all those injured. The Islamic forces of Iran are in full control of the area and check any enemy movement, he said.

Voice of Liberation: Terrorist Committee Formed

GF181840 (Clandestine) Voice of the Liberation of Iran in Persian 1630 GMT 18 Apr 86

[Text] Syria, Libya, and the Islamic Republic of Iran have set up a nine-person committee for coordinating and expanding terrorist programs. The first meeting of this committee was recently held in Tehran. The second meeting is scheduled for Damascus, at which terrorist agents of all three states will be represented.

The committee members representing the Islamic Republic of Iran are Mir Salim, an adviser to cleric Khamene'i; and Jalaledin Farsi and Mohsen Reza'i, the commander of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps. Each man and their advisers will be taking part in the next meetings of the committee. The formation of this committee was decided upon at the conference of foreign ministers of the three states held last week in Tehran.

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

23 APRIL 1986

Libya

Libya ordered the expulsion of some 300 European and U.S. journalists 23 April, according to a British Foreign Office announcement cited by AFP. Libyan Information Secretary Muhammad Sharif al-Din al-Fayturi had announced "the end of the journalists' mission in Libya" during a reception for correspondents the previous day, AFP noted. The expulsion of the journalists followed the decision by EEC states to reduce the Libyan diplomatic presence in Europe to an absolute minimum. The FRG announced its intention to expel nearly all Libyan diplomats from Bonn, while Britain ordered the deportation of 21 Libyan students, AFP disclosed. Another AFP report on the Libyan situation cited *THE TIMES* correspondent Robert Fisk's story that Colonel Mu'ammarr al-Qadhafi is sharing power with other officers in a five-man junta that includes Staff Major 'Abd al-Salam Ahmad Jallud and Armed Forces Commander Brigadier Abu Bakr Yunis Jabir.

Jabir received several Palestinian officials and Lebanese journalists 22 April, according to Voice of Greater Arab Homeland radio. The visitors included Khalid al-'Amlah, a member of the Fatah "provisional leadership," which is headed by Colonel Sa'id Musa Muragha. The radio also disclosed that a number of Soviet warships, including three cruisers, are currently visiting Libya. Meanwhile, Tripoli television broadcast film allegedly depicting the wreckage of a U.S. aircraft that was shot down by Libyan air defenses and was found by coast guards west of Tripoli. Information Secretary Al-Fayturi told journalists that the wreckage of two U.S. planes has been salvaged from the sea, AFP noted. In Moscow, Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman Vladimir Lomeyko claimed that at least 5 U.S. planes were shot down during the U.S. raid on Libya, according to AFP. The claim was not mentioned in a TASS report on Lomeyko's remarks.

In another development, Foreign Liaison official 'Ali al-Hudayri told the London *AL-MAJALLAH* that Libya "would welcome" a dialogue with the United States, KUNA reported. However, Al-Hudayri said Libya expects further U.S. attacks and considers itself to be at war with the United States.

Iran-Iraq War

In an interview with IRNA, an Iranian "operational commander" in the Al-Faw region claimed that Iraq sustained 4,500 casualties in recent Iraqi attempts to "infiltrate" Iranian positions in the area, and asserted that Iraqi reinforcements were "wiped out." In another development, the Iranian Navy has all vessels in the Strait of Hormuz under "daily control," and is maintaining a "close watch" on the vessels of the "arrogant powers" stationed in the vicinity of the Strait, including a U.S. destroyer currently in the area, Iran's navy commander divulged in an IRNA interview cited by Tehran radio.

In shipping related-incidents, an Iranian spokesman denied Iranian responsibility for the 20 April attack on a Turkish oil tanker in the Persian Gulf, IRNA reported, and termed the allegation "pure fabrication" intended to "damage" Iranian-Turkish relations. Iran "stopped" 17 commercial vessels, tugboats, and oil tankers 21 April near the Strait of Hormuz, and released them after determining they were not carrying cargo destined for Iraq, according to Tehran radio.

On the Iraqi side, a communique cited by Voice of the Masses radio divulged that Iraq attacked a "large maritime target" 22 April near the Iranian coast, registering an "accurate and effective" hit.

In a separate development, Israeli Defense Ministry and Foreign Ministry spokesmen denied any official Israeli link with the alleged smuggling of U.S. arms to Iran, according to Jerusalem radio reports, following the arrest of 17 individuals, including 3 Israelis, in connection with such activity. The Defense Ministry official's denial was in response to remarks by an Israeli reserves general suspected of attempting to smuggle U.S. arms to Iran and currently imprisoned in Bermuda, the radio reported. An earlier radio report noted that the Foreign Ministry spokesman insisted that Israel "did not know" about the "affair" being unravelled, while Israeli "political sources" maintained that this activity was undertaken by "private individuals," asserting that Israel "cannot be responsible" for acts committed by each and every citizen.

Further with regard to supplying arms to Iran, the chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet of the Union, Lev Tolkunov, in a news conference in Tunis where he is currently heading a delegation, initially admitted that the USSR is selling "small quantities of arms to Iran," KUNA reported, before subsequently revoking that assertion on the advice of an aide and denying any Soviet arms sales to Iran.

Israel

Prime Minister Shim'on Peres "met secretly" in France with the Moroccan ambassador to that country, the Tel Aviv paper *DAVAR* reported, adding that the talk broached the possibility of a meeting between Peres and the Moroccan monarch or one of his senior aides. Jerusalem radio noted that the prime minister met with the French president during his stay in France, and he also addressed the European Parliament in Strasbourg, according to AFP. During his speech, Peres reaffirmed that peace between Israel and the Arab world can only be realized by "direct negotiations" with Jordan and Palestinians.

In another development, a "top security" source cited by *HA'ARETZ* alleged that Syria was "responsible" for the "planning of everything involved" in the attempt to sabotage an El Al airliner in London.

PLO Affairs

PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat informed Radio Monte Carlo that he would discuss expected Israeli "aggressions" against Palestinian camps in Lebanon during a 22 April Palestinian Military Council meeting in Baghdad. He said the Council would also discuss the "indisciplined" behavior of some Palestinian officers in Jordan. The radio reported earlier on a fistfight in Amman between PLO employees loyal to 'Arafat and supporters of 'Atallah Muhammad 'Atallah, a Palestinian officer who has criticized the PLO leadership in recent months.

Tunisia

A criminal court sentenced Social Democratic Movement leader Ahmed Mestiri and several other opposition activists to 4 months in jail on charges of unlawful assembly, AFP reported. As for the unrest in Tunis University, TAP announced the Education Ministry's decision to close down the Faculty of Culture and Humanities, Manubah Branch, indefinitely as of 22 April. In a related report, KUNA spoke of "cautious calm" in other faculties of Tunis University following recent student protests against the killing of a Muslim fundamentalist student by security police. The authorities have warned the Islamic Tendency Movement

against holding street demonstrations and have threatened to arrest every leader who participates in demonstrations, according to a Kuwaiti press report cited by KUNA.

DRA

USSR Visit — DRA Council of Ministers Chairman Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand departed Moscow 23 April following an official visit to the USSR, TASS reported. During the course of the visit, an agreement on the guidelines for bilateral trade and economic cooperation and an economic cooperation agreement for 1986-1990 were signed, according to BAKHTAR.

Mujahidin Fighting — The rebels' "big base" in Zhwara, dubbed by the West as an "unassailable citadel of the freedom fighters," has been "completely cleared of counterrevolutionaries" TASS reported, citing the DRA general in charge of the operation. In other action, a DRA military spokesman cited by Kabul radio asserted that a "large number" of mujahidin have been "crushed" in Khowst District and a number of surface-to-air missiles have been recovered by the country's security forces. The radio cited another report that noted the seizure of 27 surface-to-surface missiles by the country's security forces in other operations.

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PDPA Central Committee Greets SED Congress

LD190427 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0503 GMT
18 Apr 86

[Text] Kabul, April 17, BAKHTAR — The Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan (PDPA CC) fully believes that the realization of the resolution of the 11th congress of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany will result in further progresses in all spheres of the life of the people of the German Democratic Republic and the elevation of the prestige of that country at international level. This is said in the congratulatory message of the PDPA CC addressed to the participants of the 11th Congress of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany on the occasion of the convocation of the congress.

The message says that the PDPA and the people of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan are completely familiar with the heroic struggles of the communists of the GDR against the Hitlerite fascist dictatorship and in the construction of the socialist society, and hold them in high esteem.

The message expresses pleasure on the great successes attained by the Socialist Unity Party of Germany as a result of the realization of the resolutions of the previous congresses, in particular the 10th Congress of the party, which has placed that country among the most advanced countries of the world.

Greets SED on 40th Anniversary

LD220631 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0424 GMT 22 Apr 86

[Text] Kabul, April 21, BAKHTAR — The People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan (PDPA) is fully aware of the consistent and indefatigable struggles of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany and holds them in high esteem. This is said in the congratulatory message of the Central Committee of the PDPA addressed to the Central Committee of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany on the occasion of the 40th founding anniversary of that party.

The message says that socio-economic development has been realized stage by stage in the German Democratic Republic under the leadership of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany during the past forty years, an advanced socialist society has been constructed in that country, and today the GDR is among the ten industrial countries of the world. All these gains constitute a source of pleasure and joy for all members of the PDPA, state and people of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan.

The PDPA firmly believes that the existing relations between the parties and states of the two countries are ever further developing and evolving in the interest of the peoples of the two countries and they enjoy a special significance for the consolidation of the process of world peace and detente, the message says.

BAKHTAR Details 21 Apr Politburo Session

LD211234 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0530 GMT 21 Apr 86

[Text] Kabul, April 20, BAKHTAR — A periodical Politburo session of the Central Committee of the PDPA was held here

today. The result of the work of the recently-concluded Jirga of free tribes was highly evaluated at the session.

The Politburo session considered the Jirga as of high significance in the region. The Jirga was a manifestation of the tendency of free tribes in defending their traditional freedoms and their ever-greater preparedness in defending the revolutionary sovereignty and safeguarding the borders of the DRA.

The significance of the free tribes Jirga is inherent in the fact that the participants of the Jirga emphasized on the common destiny of the free tribes and all the Afghans, condemned the aggressions of the U.S. imperialism and Pakistani militarists against the free tribes and independent Afghanistan, and declared their determination on ending the imposed undeclared war against the DRA. The people of the DRA will continue to give their decisive support to the just cause of free tribes, the Politburo session reiterated.

The Politburo session decided that the 116th birth anniversary of V.I. Lenin, the leader of the world proletariat falling on April 22 will be gloriously marked in Afghanistan.

The session heard the report of the preparatory commission on the 8th anniversary celebration of the April Revolution of 1978.

May 1, the 100th anniversary celebration of the solidarity day of the world working people will also be marked, the session resolved.

The Politburo session also heard the report of Mohammed Aslam Watanjar, member of the Politburo of the PDPA CC and minister of communications, on the 17th Congress of the Czechoslovak Communist Party. The session described as positive the participation of the Afghan delegation in the congress and considered it useful for the consolidation and expansion of the relations of the parties, governments and the peoples of the two countries.

The Politburo session also studied and discussed a number of questions pertaining to the domestic and foreign policy of the DRA.

Official Outlines Improved Foreign Trade Figures

LD221052 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT
19 Apr 86

[Excerpt] Effective steps have been taken towards state consolidation and control of foreign trade toward helping improve and expand the state sector and tradesmen who are working with the foreign trade sector, as a result of the economic policy of the PDPA. Efforts have been made to expand trade relations through international cooperation and the favorable development of foreign trade.

Muhammad Khan Jalalard told a BAKHTAR correspondent that during the country's trade turnover amounted to \$1,359.7 million and that trade is expanding with the socialist countries daily, especially with Soviet Union. These relations will expand with the signing of the trade agreements of January and February

1986 between the two friendly and fraternal countries. We will strive to exploit possibilities for trade in the interest of the country's trade and economy and to expand trade relations.

In this connection, last year Afghan products were put in display in five international exhibitions and despite the restriction by some western countries on our foreign trade, facilities were provided so that our trade could follow a normal pattern in hard currency areas.

The trade minister added that already our trade is following its normal pattern with the countries within the hard currency areas, including with the United States, Britain, the FRG, Japan, France, Switzerland, Italy, Hong Kong, Singapore and Thailand; and our trade exchange has reached \$394.7 million with these countries during the last year, of which \$130.4 million constitutes our exports to them.

Last year goods were exported to a value of \$20 million to England and \$23 million to the FRG. Important items of our export are karakul, raisins and other dry fruits, plants with medicinal properties, rugs, carpets, (?intestine) and handicrafts.

Riyadh: Mujahidin Break Qandahar Siege

*GF221334 Riyadh: Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT
22 Apr 86*

[Text] The Afghan mujahidin today broke the siege imposed by USSR-DRA forces on the old town of Qandahar. They transported food and supplies to the mujahidin inside the blockaded town.

According to reports in Islamabad the communist forces resumed their shelling of the town and street fighting flared up between the mujahidin and the Kabul regime forces. The reports add that hundreds of Qandahar citizens fled to Pakistan carrying their injured to be treated.

Armed Forces Crush Rebels; Seize Missiles

*LD221752 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT
22 Apr 86*

[Text] Quoting a spokesman of the country's Armed Forces the BIA correspondent reports that as a result of the successful operations which were recently carried out by the courageous country's Armed Forces in the environs of Khowst District, in particular in the Zhawar region in the southwest of this major district, a large number of the counterrevolutionary elements — these savage killers and enemies of our people's prosperity — were crushed and a large number of various weapons and ammunition were seized by the country's security forces.

Moreover, in the course of these operations a number of British-made blowpipe type surface-to-air missiles, were also seized, indicating the broad dimension of the undeclared war against the DRA unleashed by the international imperialism, headed by U.S. imperialism and the British Conservative government.

According to another report, as a result of the successful operations carried out by the country's security forces 27 surface-to-surface missiles were seized by the country's security forces.

Continuing Reportage on Nonaligned Ministers Meeting

Endorsements, Condemnations Issued

PA212305 Havana International Service in Spanish
2300 GMT 20 Apr 86

[Text] The Nonaligned Movement in New Delhi has condemned the establishment of an strategic alliance between the United States and Israel that is bringing about destabilization in the Middle East. The final declaration of the Nonaligned Ministerial Conference stressed that U.S.-Israeli alliance and aggressive policy that are threatening Middle Eastern and world peace.

The nonaligned foreign ministers reaffirmed their active solidarity with Arab nations who are victims of Zionist aggression and with the just cause of the Palestine people. They also urged the UN Security Council to take effective measures, including the imposition of sanctions specified in Chapter Seven of the organization's charter, to achieve the immediate withdrawal of Israeli troops from occupied Syrian land. They also condemned the Zionist attack on Tunisia and the hijacking of a Libyan commercial plane last February.

After denouncing the military, economic, and nuclear cooperation between Israel and the South African regime, the final declaration of the nonaligned foreign ministers voiced concern over the dangerous situation created by the Zionist invasion of Lebanon in 1982. They called on the United Nations to order the immediate exit of Tel Aviv troops from that Arab country.

In addition, the movement reiterated its call to the governments of Argentina and Great Britain to resume negotiations on the Malvinas problem. The nonaligned foreign ministers reiterated their firm support to the Argentine right to recover its sovereignty over those South Atlantic islands.

They also condemned meddling in the internal affairs of Haiti, especially by the United States. They said: that activity constitutes a disregard of the right of that Caribbean people to freely chose their political and economic system.

Commentary on Meeting Resolutions

BK191407 Delhi General Overseas Service in English
1340 GMT 19 Apr 86

[Commentary by Shakar Padnesh of the *HINDUSTAN TIMES*]

[Text] After 3 days of hectic and intense diplomatic activity the stage has been finally set for the ministerial-level Coordinating Bureau of the Nonaligned Movement [NAM] to adopt the final declaration incorporating the NAM stand on various contentious world issues. As it always happens, the drafting committee of the bureau found itself with a large number of amendments which were easily accepted as they only dealt with changes in nuances and as such did not provoke sharp disagreement. Some again were such that they implied substantive changes in the draft. Often these naturally brought to the surface differences among the member states in their respective perception of various issues.

One question on which there could not have been any difference in approach was in respect of the American action over Libya, and there was none in the meeting either. With one voice the meeting loudly condemned the American action and with unanimity decided that a team of foreign ministers of NAM should visit Libya to demonstrate the solidarity of the movement with Libya. Not surprisingly, however, there were other issues on which differences between the members had to be harmonized and reconciled by the drafting committee to make them acceptable to the meeting as a whole.

There were, thus, the questions of Afghanistan and of Kampuchea. Even so, unlike in the past meetings of the bureau, the drafting committee found it relatively easy to formulate an approach which will be acceptable to all and yet keeping a perspective to the nonaligned stand. This was the withdrawal of foreign forces from both the countries and simultaneously call for the cessation of outside interference in the internal affairs of the concerned countries.

Like in the case of Libya, the formulation of the NAM stand on the situation in southern Africa was easy enough to evolve. At the outset the meeting decided that the draft on this question should be left to the Frontline African States. The political committee considered the amended version of the draft without any difficulty. As it emerged the declaration proclaimed the opposition of NAM to the so-called policy of constructive engagement in the Pretoria regime. The declaration deplored the support given by some of the countries to this policy and said it served to strength the forces upholding apartheid. Similarly, on the question of Namibia no change was called for in the draft and none made it to alter the substantive aspect of it.

On the troubled situation in west Asia, the committee on Palestine decided that the United Nations Security Council should be asked to consider it in the context of the prevailing situation. It was also decided that world opinion should be mobilized on the convening of an international peace conference on West Asia. The committee also reiterated the unquestionable confidence NAM had in the capacity of the PLO as the spokesman for the Palestinians.

The one issue on which the drafting committee found itself unable to come up with an agreed formulation related to the Iran-Iraq war. While Iraq was insistent that the declaration should contain a condemnation of Iran for flouting UN resolutions, Iran maintained firmly that Iraq should be declared the aggressor. Unable to get the two countries to agree on a suitable formulation, the drafting committee decided to remit the issue to the plenary concluding session.

The draft declaration on the economic issues came up with a recommendation which has been considered to be a breakthrough. This is the decision to set up a standing committee of NAM for evolving a united front of NAM in economic negotiations. There was also agreement on NAM adopting a united approach toward multilateral trade negotiations in Geneva and also on the question of food security.

DRA Proposes Participation in Talks

BK220749 *Delhi Domestic Service in English 0730 GMT*
22 Apr 86

[Text] Afghanistan is reported to have proposed that India should take part in the talks on the Afghan tangle to ensure international guarantee against any outside interference to its sovereignty and territorial integrity. A PTI report from Kabul says that the proposal was conveyed to the UN secretary general's special envoy, Mr Diego Cordovez, when he visited the Afghan capital last month. The agency quotes an important Politburo member and secretary of the Central Committee of the ruling People's Democratic Party, Mr Mahmud Barialay, as saying that participation of the United States and the Soviet Union is also a must for the international guarantee. He described the Afghan proposal as flexible and said it is now up to Pakistan and the United States to decide on their stand. He said Pakistan is following a hostile policy against Afghanistan. The agency learns that Pakistan is likely to participate directly for the first time in UN-sponsored talks in Geneva next month.

Delegation Rejects Bangladesh Border Proposal

BK211301 *Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT*
21 Apr 86

[Text] A local-level meeting of the India-Bangladesh joint rivers commission was held at Belonia in South Tripura district yesterday. The leader of the Bangladesh delegation, Mr A. M. Chowdhury, pressed for the dismantling of the construction work in Muhuri Char. This was rejected by the Indian delegation on the ground that the protection work is necessary to save Belonia from erosion by the Muhuri River. The Indian delegation was led by Mr D.C. Debnath.

Continuing Reportage on Unrest Incidents in Punjab**Violence Reported**

BK230408 *Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT*
23 Apr 86

[Text] In Punjab, three persons, including two armed desperadoes, were killed and three injured in two separate incidents of violence since last evening. In Sangrur District at Rani Kere village two armed terrorists were caught and injured by public after they shot at two caretakers of a religious place. Both the terrorists later succumbed to their injuries. In another incident, four suspected terrorists killed one man and injured another in an incident at village (Deriwala) in Gurdaspur District.

2 Killed in Amritsar, Jullundur

BK220312 *Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT*
22 Apr 86

[Text] In Punjab, two persons were killed and one seriously injured in two separate incidents last night.

In Amritsar, one person was killed and one injured when three gunmen opened fire at the octroi [commodity tax] post at Verka Road. The person killed was a peon and the injured a clerk on duty at the octroi post.

In Jullundur, a shopkeeper was stabbed to death by three unidentified persons.

'Terrorist' Captured

BK221615 *Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT*
22 Apr 86

[Text] One suspected terrorist was injured and captured after an exchange of fire with a patrol party of the CRPF [Central Reserve Police Force] near Argaon village in Amritsar District last night.

According to reports reaching Chandigarh, the patrol party was fired upon when it challenged three persons moving about under suspicious circumstances. While one of them was captured, the other two managed to escape under cover of darkness.

The state director general of police, Mr Rebeiro, today visited the Indo-Pakistan border along Ferozepore district to see measures being taken to check infiltration of terrorists. Later, he told newsmen in Faridkot that ultra-modern arms have been given to police officials to help them deal with antinational elements.

Sikh Student Federation Formally Splits

BK221625 *Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT*
22 Apr 86

[Text] The All India Sikh Students Federation today formally split into two factions with the announcement of a new seven member ad hoc committee by the federation leader, Mr Harinder Singh Kahlon.

Mr Kahlon himself is the convener of the new committee. Agency reports say that with the announcement of the new ad hoc committee two factions of the All India Sikh Students Federation have come into being — one led by Mr Majit Singh, and the other by Mr Kahlon.

Protest Lodged With DRA Over 21 April Shelling*BK221728 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 22 Apr 86*

[Text] Afghan Armed Forces fired 30 rounds of artillery yesterday at 0720 which landed in the [name indistinct] area of North Waziristan. However, no casualty or damage was reported. Later at 1500, Afghan Armed Forces fired nine tank rounds which landed in the area of Lakka Tiga in Khurram Agency. As a result, one Afghan refugee was injured. The Afghan Armed Forces also fired 20 rounds of artillery at 1600, which landed in the Sarki area of North Waziristan injuring one Pakistani national.

The Afghan charge d'affaires was summoned to the Foreign Office this afternoon and a strong protest was lodged with him over the unprovoked attacks.

President States Present Assemblies To Complete Term*BK231034 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 23 Apr 86*

[Text] President Mohammad Ziaul Haq has said the nation has freely chosen their representatives for the national and provincial assemblies and these representatives will, God willing, complete their term. He was talking to newsmen at the Sukkur airport on his arrival this afternoon.

The president said elections are not held as a result of holding meetings and organizing processions or by creating a situation of confrontation. The people of Pakistan, he said, are sensible and mature enough to understand meanings of democracy and they cannot be fooled or misled by the politics of processions and meetings. He said the people know how democracy was trampled and democratic institutions destroyed in the past. They also know what has been done during the last 8 or 9 years for the enforcement of Islamic laws, for upholding Islamic values and Islamic spirit.

President Mohammad Ziaul Haq said he gave a program for the revival of democracy to the people and the people accepted it and cooperated with him by giving him their votes, and when the elections were held for the provincial and national assemblies, 67 percent voters voted in the provincial assembly elections and 62 percent in the National Assembly elections.

Acting Speaker Supports Bhutto Call for Midterm Poll*BK221351 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1330 GMT 22 Apr 86*

[Text] In Pakistan, the acting speaker of the National assembly, Mr Wazir Ahmad Jogerai, in a dramatic statement today endorsed the call of the opposition leader, Miss Benazir Bhutto, for midterm elections in the country. The speaker said to promote democracy we should not feel reluctant to hold midterm polls. He said democracy is valuable and we must be prepared to offer any sacrifice for its promotion.

DAWN Comments on Repercussions of U.S. Attack*GF201112 Karachi DAWN in English 18 Apr 86 p 15*

[Editorial: "U.S. Raids — The Day After"]

[Text] Predictably, the American military operation against Libya has proved unrewarding and perhaps even counter-productive. It has not overthrown Mu'ammār al-Qadhafi, so far — although it must have been a principal aim or expectation of the attacking power. It has not isolated him either. If anything, the action has isolated the U.S. in the community of nations. The U.S. raids have been deplored all around, in all circles of international politics — in Europe, by the NAM [Nonaligned Movement] fraternity and in the Middle East, (where the lone voice of support has come from the pariah of the region, Israel) as well as by the Socialist countries.

Among the Arabs, even America's close allies like Egypt and Jordan have "deplored" the action. In Europe, Mrs Margaret Thatcher has earned the dubious distinction of being the solitary ally to support the U.S. Even so, she appears to have felt the force of the widespread rejection of her stance within the country and outside. However, grudgingly, she too, has entered a reservation by stating that in any subsequent U.S. action collaboration by the U.S. will be subject to "renegotiation". The overriding moral of all this is that the international community as a whole, barring a few exceptions like Britain and Israel, has, by virtue of denial of support or open rejection, made it known to Washington that it does not accept the right claimed by the U.S. to take military action against a sovereign State, simply because the U.S. Government chooses to accuse that State of "terrorism". Neither does the world community believe that any of Libya's actions could be construed as posing a serious threat to the security or vital interests of the U.S. or that Washington could legitimately invoke the right of self-defence in the matter.

President Reagan has neglected to note that the "terrorism" he associates with the Arabs or the Palestinians is not easy to liquidate by military action because one cannot single out a country or a political outfit as its sole embodiment. This "terrorism" is no longer a monolith; it has fractionised over the years. Even if Libya can be forced to withdraw its support to the Palestinian struggle — an impossible proposition — non-Libyan Arabs will continue to back it as their bounden duty. The most important aspect of the so-called Libyan or Arab "terrorism" is the fundamental fact the region is embodied in Israel, the perpetrator of the great Palestinian diaspora and the destroyer of peace and tranquility in the Middle East.

Of course, the U.S. and the U.K. bear responsibility before history for Israel's sins of omission and commission. Unless the two countries do something to decontaminate that poisoned well, it is grotesquely senseless for them to articulate concern over the so-called Arab or Palestinian "terrorism". As it has turned out, both the United States and the U.S. have preempted, by their latest behaviour, any role as credible promoters of a peace process in the Middle East for quite some time to come. By its Libyan offensive the U.S. has even weakened the position of the moderate Arab leaders who could have played a significant part in such a process.

According to Libyan accounts, U.S. planes again raided Tripoli on Wednesday. Washington has denied it but has continued to repeat Mr Reagan's threat on Tuesday last that "...if necessary, we shall do it again". Such a course of action can only aggravate the crisis in the region and the Middle East at large. Among other things, it would be a direct affront to the world community and in a sense a provocation to the other superpower. The Soviet Union has already asserted that there would be "more far-reaching consequences" for East-West relations and that these "will go as far as the U.S. actions". These words cannot be taken lightly. As a first reaction to Tuesday's happenings, Moscow has cancelled Shultz-Shevardnadze meeting to discuss arrangements for another summit. Any satisfaction Washington can derive from what it has done to Libya will come as a poor consolation for the grave setback that is likely to be caused to humanity's hopes for an end to superpower contention.

HAIDAR Calls For Boycott of United States

GF210947 Rawalpindi Haidar in Urdu 17 Apr 86 p 3

[Editorial: "U.S. Aggression and the Obligations of Islamic Nations"]

[Text] A new and shameful chapter has been added to the record of the black deeds of the fascist U.S. aggressors. The relentless bombing of civilian areas of Tripoli and Benghazi has revived the memories of the war crimes of misanthropic dictators such as Nazi Germany's Hitler and Fascist Italy's Mussolini. This fresh act of terrorism on the part of President Reagan against Libya is a challenge to all of the civilized and peace-loving peoples of the world. If this challenge is not taken up, and if the Reagan administration is not punished for its inhuman crime, the law of the jungle will prevail on this planet, instead of the rule of decency and propriety.

A ridiculous pretext has been concocted by Reagan's sick mind to commit aggression against Libya by accusing it of nurturing terrorism. This flimsy pretext seems absurd coming from U.S. leaders who have been the champions of international terrorism for the past 50 years. They have been involved in heinous

atrocities such as assassination of leaders and heads of states, executions, and coups d'etats. The evidence of despicable crimes perpetrated by U.S. Governments over the past 2 decades can be found in a report by the late Senator Frank Church, which was submitted on the instructions of the U.S. Senate after detailed investigations.

It would have been preferable if President Reagan had perused the dossiers on the crimes of U.S. leaders in the abovementioned report before levelling ambiguous accusations of nurturing or supporting terrorism against Libya. In view of what President Reagan himself has done recently in Grenada, Chile, and Nicaragua, it seems even more preposterous that he should level charges of terrorism against another. The record of international crimes committed by the U.S. protege, Israel, with U.S. support, proves the correctness of our stance that the real perpetrators of international terrorism are the U.S. leaders. They are the enemies of world peace and the greatest violators of international norms.

The fresh act of savage aggression against Libya by President Reagan gives greater credence to the belief that U.S. belligerency is the greatest danger to the Islamic world. Libya is being punished for its support of the Iranian revolution and is in the forefront in his demand for a separate homeland for the Palestinian Muslims. The United States is also thirsting for Al-Qadhafi's blood because this great leader has refused to be coerced by the United States or to bow down before it.

We present our condolences on the loss of life in the U.S. aircrafts' bombing of Libyan civilian areas and to the Al-Qadhafi family. We also express our profound sympathies to the Libyan people. We express our vociferous support of Air Marshal Asghar Khan (retired) that Pakistan should give immediate military aid to Libya. We appeal to the Pakistani nation and the honorable Muslims of the world to boycott U.S. manufactured goods and once again we advise the Arab states to withdraw their assets from U.S. banks. We expect the Soviet leaders to take drastic measures to punish the United States for the aggression committed against its friend Libya.

SRI LANKA

Prime Minister To Visit Turkey, Romania, UK

*BK211145 Colombo International Service in English
1045 GMT 21 Apr 86*

[Text] Prime Minister R. Premadasa leaves Sri Lanka tomorrow on official visits to Romania and Turkey. He has been invited to deliver the keynote address at the ninth session of the United Nations Commission on Human Settlement, which is scheduled to be held in Istanbul, Turkey. During his stay in Turkey, Mr Premadasa will have official talks with the prime minister of Turkey, Turgut Ozal, and other senior ministers.

Mr Premadasa has also been invited to Romania on a state visit by Prime Minister Constantin Dascalu. The prime minister is also scheduled to meet British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher during a brief stopover in London.

Foreign Minister Comments on New Delhi Talks

*BK221315 Colombo Domestic Service in English 1245 GMT
22 Apr 86*

[Text] The talks between Sri Lanka and India on the ethnic issue will probably be held in Colombo at the end of this month. Former Indian Foreign Secretary Romesh Bhandari is likely to visit Colombo for this purpose. Foreign Minister Shahul Hameed informed the cabinet today of the discussion he held in New Delhi on the new proposal to end the ethnic problem. The minister expressed the hope that some [words indistinct] are now over.

AFP: Tamils To Discuss Colombo Proposals in Madras

BK221345 Hong Kong AFP in English 1327 GMT 22 Apr 86

[Excerpt] Madras, India, April 22 (AFP) — Top leaders of the Sri Lankan Tamil United Liberation Front (TULF) are to meet with Indian government officials Wednesday on Colombo's latest proposals to end the Tamil problem, a TULF spokesman said Tuesday.

TulF Secretary-General Appapillai Amirthalingam said the TULF delegation, which also includes TULF president M. Sivasithampram and Politburo member R. Sampantham, would meet G. Parthasarathy, chairman of the Foreign Ministry's Policy Planning Committee, and former foreign secretary Romesh Bhandari. Mr Bhandari, now chairman of the ruling Congress (I) party's foreign affairs cell, is expected to meet with Sri Lankan Tamil militant groups in this southern city after the New Delhi talks, militant sources said. Sri Lankan Foreign Minister Shahul Hameed presented the new proposals to Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi in New Delhi last week.

Reports from Colombo have said the plans provide a conceptual framework for devolving power to the Tamils through elected provincial councils led by a chief minister, although the central government would retain overriding powers. According to militant sources here, the proposals contain nothing new except a "vague" assurance that Sri Lankan President J.R. Jayewardene

is now prepared to examine how far he could devolve powers to the councils under Sri Lanka's existing constitution. The militant Tamil groups have rejected the proposals outright saying they do not answer their basic demand of autonomy for the linguistic minority.

Colombo Reports Recent Terrorist Activities

*BK221121 Colombo International Service in English
1045 GMT 22 Apr 86*

[Text] Terrorists have kidnapped a Sinhalese police constable. The incident took place last Friday when the constable was traveling in a transport board bus from Adurevela in Polonnaruwa to Waluchini. A 17 year-old Tamil youth was found shot dead last Saturday night in another gruesome lamp post killing in Mannar town. The terrorist group responsible for this murder is the Tamil Eelam Liberation Organization.

Yesterday a terrorist group tried to attack the army detachment at Point Pedro. According to LANKA PUWATH, the terrorists had fired at the detachment but had fled when the security forces returned fire. In another incident at Point Pedro two terrorist leaders were killed in a 3-hour gun battle with the security forces yesterday morning. Reports from LANKA PUWATH say that a security forces patrol was ambushed about 200 meters away from Point Pedro town when the shooting broke out. There were no casualties to troops. The dead terrorists were Premachandran alias (Ramananjaya) of Velvettiturai and Edmund Sadashivan alias (Khandan Ravi).

Dam Bursts, Flooding Reported in Trincomalee

*BK210442 Colombo International Service in English
1030 GMT 20 Apr 86*

[Text] The Kantalai Tank breached early this morning flooding several thousands acres of land. The 24,000-square-foot breach in the dam resulted [in the] rush of a mountain-like wave of water. The engineer at the Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation transmitting station at Kantalai, Mr C.N. Gunasekara, said that the water was still flowing toward the sea at Trincomalee. The main road from Colombo to Trincomalee which is constructed on the Kantalai (?dam) has been (?severed). According to the controller of railways, railway service has also been hampered. According to reports received so far, [words indistinct] have been affected.

Mr Gunasekara said that many people had climbed trees for safety. There are problems in rescuing those affected, as the area cannot be approached by road. Helicopters from the Trincomalee army camp are now engaged in rescue operations. The Kantalai town and the villages of Wanela, Rajawella and Kampalagamua are under water.

At present, it is not possible to estimate the damage caused by the breach. The Kantalai irrigation scheme is a large development project in Trincomalee district. The cause of the breach is still unknown. Top-level investigations are underway.

Mamaqan Friday Imam Dies in Bomb Explosion

*LD212129 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2330 GMT
19 Apr 86*

[From the "Press Review"]

[Text] The newspaper *RESALAT* carries the following: The Friday imam of Mamaqan [in Eastern Azarbaijan Province] was martyred during his sermons due to the explosion of a bomb planted by agents of the global arrogance.

Hojjat ol-Eslam Mohammad Fakhr-Balaqi, Mamaqan Friday imam, who had spent years of his life struggling against the satanic regime was martyred yesterday by the hypocrites.

Tabriz Attacks Soviet leaders Over Iran-Iraq War

*GF231056 Tabriz International Service in Azeri
1715 GMT 22 Apr 86*

[From "What Are Foreign Radios Saying" program]

[Excerpt] Dear listeners, in their approach to the war the Saddam regime has imposed on the Muslim people of Iran, the Soviet leaders have been talking for years on end now about the need to end the useless fighting, which is against the two peoples and conducive toward the interests of U.S. imperialism, through peaceful means. One of the most recent examples of the publicity of such biased and illogical positions has been observed in the latest edition of *IZVESTIYA*, the organ of the CPSU.

On 19 April, Tel Aviv radio aired a number of sections from an article *IZVESTIYA* published in that regard. Referring to the "Val-Fajr-8" operation, *IZVESTIYA* strongly criticized the position held by the Islamic Republic of Iran's government and supported the call Iraq made for the commencement of negotiations. *IZVESTIYA* noted: Only Iraq has disclosed its preparedness for the commencement of peace negotiations and for halting the war. However, the Iranian Government wishes the continuation of the fighting.

From the commencement of the Ba'thist naval, ground, and air attacks in September 1980 to May 1983, when, regardless of the rejection of military experts and political planners in the world, the fighters of the Islamic Republic of Iran liberated Khorramshahr from the clamp of the occupationist forces, the Kremlin leaders have made no reference at all to Saddam's aggression and militarism.

Not even once did the media organs controlled by the Soviet leadership mention the Baghdad regime's militarism and aggression while the western and southern regions of the Islamic Republic of Iran were being destroyed during this long period of time. Nor did the Soviet Union condemn the Saddam regime [words indistinct] or verbally from 1980 to 1983. Instead, by setting up air lifts and by organizing innumerable and unending flights, it filled the arsenals of the Ba'thist regime with various types of modern arms used by the naval forces and the Air Force. Thus, the Soviet Union has helped Saddam continue its aggression against the Muslim people of Iran.

Do not the Soviet leaders realize that Saddam's yearning for peace is an outcome of the political and military defeats he has been suffering? Why do the Soviet leaders ignore the fact that given the opportunity, Saddam will resume his attacks on Iran and the other neighbors of Iraq and (?broaden the dimensions of) dangerous positions by fanning the flame of war? Have not the Soviet forces pursued the aggressive forces of Hitler's Germany to Berlin's [words indistinct] and destroyed that city by the time Hitler was toppled? Then why do they hold such a position against the defensive measures which have been planned for halting any possible attack organized by the aggressor in the future and not for capturing Baghdad or even an inch of Iraqi territory?

The reply to these questions is locked in the fact that the positions held by the major powers in the world take into consideration only their international interests and allow no sympathy for the oppressed peoples. Nevertheless, this will not have the slightest effect on the Islamic Republic of Iran's neither East nor West policy.

Foreign Ministry Statement on EEC Sanctions on Libya

*LD221807 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT
22 Apr 86*

[Statement issued by Foreign Ministry on 22 April regarding the EEC decision to impose sanctions on Libya]

[Text] In his exalted name. The Foreign Affairs Ministry of the Islamic Republic of Iran with great regret heard the news of the decision of the EEC foreign ministers to impose political and economic pressure on the Libyan Jamahiriyyah at the same time as that country is facing U.S. military aggression.

The Common Market's measure, which no doubt has been taken as a result of U.S. pressure, is nothing other than surrender to force and endorses and encourages U.S. state terrorism. It also constitutes approval of U.S. armed aggression against other countries, which is a blatant violation of the UN Charter.

The Muslim and Arab nations view the EEC's action as an expression of hostility toward the entire Islamic world and indifference to world public opinion, which has unanimously, even in Europe, condemned the U.S. aggression against Libya. It is regrettable that in order to please the United States, the EEC members have made some decisions that not only would harm their interests in the Islamic and Arab world, but would also promote U.S. state terrorism and aggression against countries that do not intend to surrender to its expansionist desires.

The Islamic Republic of Iran expects that the governments of the EEC countries, by using common sense and in order to show respect for the principles of international law and the verdict of the nonaligned countries, which condemned the U.S. aggression against Libya, and also for the sake of maintaining healthy relations with the Muslim and Arab countries, would seriously reconsider their decisions and refrain from implementing them.

'Mercenary' Arab Regimes Give U.S. 'Green Light'

GF221630 Tehran International Service in Turkish
1830 GMT 21 Apr 86

[From "A Glance at Developments in the World" program]

[Text] In a press conference in Washington, Vice President George Bush disclosed that the Arab leaders he met during his visit to the Persian Gulf region expressed support for a U.S. military attack on Libya.

With such approval, the mercenary Arab regimes are giving a green light to the United States to attack all progressive Arab countries as well. This reveals the extent of their loyalty to their professed support for Arab nationalism. However, the progressive Arab countries can foil the satanic conspiracies hatched by U.S. imperialism and render ineffective any military aggression through a struggle against oppression. The mercenary Arab regimes know well that their support for the United States will not help safeguard U.S. interests in the region.

U.S. Raid Viewed As Political, Military Defeat

GF221620 Tehran International Service in Turkish
1830 GMT 21 Apr 86

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Dear listeners, regardless of the wide-ranging military preparations and the conditioning of public opinion, the U.S. attack on Islamic Libya has ended in defeat for the United States. The gravity of this defeat is more in the political domain rather than the military field.

Although the U.S. officials, who have murdered defenseless women and children, have described the operation as a great victory, they have been unable to ignore the hatred which the savage attack has aroused in the world peoples.

While millions of people in various parts of the world have demonstrated against the United States and Great Britain, the U.S. Administration declared a state of emergency for U.S. citizens abroad and closed down its diplomatic missions in various countries — missions which are centers of espionage. U.S. Embassies and consulates in numerous countries have been attacked. Demonstrations have been organized even in the United States itself and in Great Britain. This proves the fact that the American and British people oppose the aggression.

Undoubtedly, the U.S. attack was designed to kill the Libyan leader, Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhafi. In fact *THE WASHINGTON POST* reported that the U.S. National Security Council had drawn up a statement in this regard. The newspaper said that although the intention was to bombard the garrison in which Al-Qadhafi resided, the main task was to kill him.

Meanwhile, although the relatively modern U.S. aircraft, which find their targets with the help of laser equipment, dropped about 100 tons of bombs on the defenseless Muslim people in Tripoli and Benghazi, the United States failed to achieve its predetermined targets. Furthermore, the savage U.S. attack placed the

U.S. allies in Europe in a difficult position. Apart from Prime Minister Thatcher, who equated Great Britain's dignity with that of a squadron of U.S. aircraft carriers, no other country in Europe supported the attack. While the attack was supported by Canada in the American Continent and the Zionist regime in the Middle East, the United States was criticized by the rest of the world.

Apart from the 'Aflaqi regime in Iraq and the regime in Tunisia, no other country — including those hosting wide-ranging moves by their Muslim communities — dared to support the attack in the Islamic world. In other words, despite receiving the support of its allies within aggressive NATO, the United States failed to secure the support of the puppet and reactionary regimes in the Middle East and North Africa. Obviously, therefore, the long-term results of the political defeat the United States has suffered will turn out to be more serious than its military loss. The fact that the United States has arrived at such a point regardless of using its entire military might — with the exception of nuclear arms — indicates the dimensions of the U.S. defeat.

According to a disclosure by a British group which calls for the removal of nuclear arms, the United States placed its nuclear missiles in at least three countries in Europe on alert prior to its attack on Libya. A number of reliable newspapers in Europe have said in clear terms that the U.S. attack was the strongest yet since the Vietnam war. Furthermore, although the bombing of a discotheque in West Berlin was used as a pretext, it has become clear to a certain extent that the bombing of the discotheque was carried out by CIA and Mosad agents. In a report from Athens, AFP has said the Libyan authorities have acquired documents proving that the CIA and Mosad had passed on information to a number of ambassadors prior to the attack. In any event, the revolutionary movements now have new reasons for intensifying their anti-American actions. It has become apparent that with his attack on Libya, Reagan repeated the mistake Carter made in his attack on Iran's Tabas desert — an attack which also was defeated.

Anti-American demonstrations in many countries in Europe have assumed broader dimensions after the U.S. attack on Libya. Demonstrators who have gathered in front of U.S. military bases and other centers in various cities in Europe have voiced their hatred against the latest U.S. aggression and demanded that the regimes of the countries involved abandon their aggressive initiatives. Demonstrators in Stockholm entered the U.S. Embassy there and broke windows to display their hatred against the United States over its attack on Libya. A U.S. Embassy official in Stockholm said that it was the first time the embassy had been attacked since the Vietnam war. The American people also have condemned the attack by organizing demonstrations. One of the organizers of the demonstrations described the U.S. attack on a small country like Libya as an aggressive and racist initiative.

Khamene'i States No Expansionist Ambitions in Area

GF220735 Tehran International Service in Arabic
0400 GMT 22 Apr 86

[Text] President 'Ali Khamene'i has stressed that the international situation indicates that the international arrogance has despaired of preserving Saddam and that it cannot keep this dead

body. This was reported during the meeting between President Khamene'i with a group of the Labbayka ya Imam convoy from the city of Neyshabur in Khorasan Province.

Brother Khamene'i referred to the huge victories of the Muslim fighters in the "Val-Fajr-8" operations which resulted in the liberation of the Iraqi city of Al-Faw. He said: The weakness of the Iraqi regime in these battles was evident. It was also clear who will win this war. The superpowers try to belittle the importance of the victory attained by Islam and the Muslims.

The president reaffirmed that Iran has no expansionist ambitions. He said: We confronted aggression and injustice after suffering from the aggression to which we were subjected. The brother president added: Confirmation of this right was made by the Iranian Muslim people. This is an honor which will serve as an example to all the peoples of the world throughout history.

Majlis Speaker: Defense Capability Not Tied to Oil
LD230945 Tehran IRNA in English 0850 GMT 23 Apr 86

[Text] April 23, IRNA — The Majlis speaker, Hojjat ol-Eslam Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani, said here Tuesday that the Islamic Republic of Iran in continuing its defence does not rely on oil sales.

Hojjat ol-Eslam Rafsanjani who is also the representative of Imam Khomeyni at the Supreme Defence Council, addressing the governors general of the country, referred to the recent plots to push oil prices down. He said, "our enemy, in running its war machine, depends more on oil revenues."

"The plot is an extensive one", he told the governors who are attending a four-day seminar in Tehran. The objective is to force Iran to end the war because according to the calculations of enemies of the Islamic Revolution any decline in oil revenues of Iran will push it to end the war.

However, he added, we must prove the contrary to our enemies and disappoint the plotters. The Iraqi rulers and their supporters are desperate for the oil money and Iraq's warfare depends totally on petro dollars and in the long run it will not be able to cope with the situation.

As for Iran, he added, it may be dependent on oil in certain fields but the country can meet them. Iran's oil production has been far less than the quota set by OPEC and yet it has stood on its feet and has managed the war well. However, he pointed out, if they are supposed to disturb our system, we can export more oil through various export terminals which Iran has created.

Hojjat ol-Eslam Rafsanjani said that despite what is said that due to oil there may be some problems this year, if the problems are tackled in the proper form, not only there will be no problem but the situation can be further improved. Iran has successfully handled more difficult situations in the past such as the conditions at the outbreak of the Iraqi imposed war.

On massive public participation in the war following the recent statements of imam Khomeyni, Hojjat ol-Eslam Rafsanjani said

that this public response has solved many problems and has disappointed the enemies. Following public reaction to the statements of the imam, enemies of the Islamic Revolution must reconsider their views towards Iran. One outcome of the public resistance is that the French Government has changed its attitude towards the Islamic Republic of Iran, he said.

No doubt, he added, the Islamic Republic of Iran will have its definite impact on the world, the region, and the world oppressed and will liberate them. The worldwide reaction and protest to the U.S. attack on Libya is one of the effects of the Islamic Revolution of Iran. This is a promising outlook and it shows that despite the poisonous propaganda against the Islamic Revolution of Iran, people of the world have become aware of realities, Rafsanjani said.

The Majlis speaker urged the governors general to pay greater attention to improving the agricultural sector of each locality and boost non-oil exports which would bring in more foreign exchange. Countries of the southern Persian Gulf are a good markets for Iranian goods. He advised the governors general to take care of the issue of each province in the area and not refer them to Tehran.

Oil Minister Discusses Economic Ties With Turkey
LD222329 Tehran IRNA in English 1418 GMT 22 Apr 86

[Text] Ankara, April 22, IRNA — The Turkish Minister of State for Economic affairs Mostafa Tiniz Tanaz in a meeting with Iran's oil minister Gholam Reza Aqazadeh in Ankara Tuesday discussed economic relations between the two countries. Issue of present oil prices and Tehran-Ankara relations were other topics discussed at the meeting. Turkey's minister of state is also in charge of the joint economic committee of the two neighboring countries.

Aqazadeh and his accompanying delegation arrived here Tuesday from Geneva where they had participated in the 77th conference of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries.

In an interview with IRNA correspondent here, Aqazadeh said talks with Tinaz on economic relations were in forthcoming talks between Iranian and Turkish experts the details of decisions reached between the two countries will be clarified, he said. [sentence as received]

Turkey was not buying oil from Iran because it was not aware of the prospect of oil prices Aqazadeh said, but now after the OPEC conference we are confident an agreement could be reached quickly. He said Turkey's refusal to buy oil from the Islamic Republic had not affected oil exports and Iran was selling oil to other customers. "Iran will not limit the volume of its trade with Turkey at all, but rather it may increase it", Aqazadeh said.

The issue of prices was the only thing which might be revised. Oil price fall in world markets will also affect prices of Turkish exports, he said. The two countries enjoyed over two Billion dollars in trade last year.

Tehran Reports Iranian-Romanian Accord Signed

GF190540 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT
19 Apr 86

[Text] According to IRNA, the fourth session of the joint Iranian-Romanian commission for economic, technical and commercial cooperation concluded in Bucharest yesterday with the signing of an economic trade accord between the two countries. This agreement was signed by the Romanian minister for foreign trade and international economic cooperation and the budget and planning minister of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

According to the agreement, the quantum of goods exchanged would increase and technical and economic collaboration would increase. According to this report, the Islamic Republic of Iran's delegation also met high-level Romanian officials during the course of their visit.

Planning Minister Discusses Trade Ties With Romania

GF200649 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT
20 Apr 86

[Interview with Planning and Budget Minister Roghani-Zanjani upon his return from Bucharest by the Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran correspondent at Tehran on 20 April — recorded]

[Text] [Roghani-Zanjani] In the beginning we had many meetings with (?officials there). During these meetings the various commissions decided on the various topics and problems along the path of cooperation between the two countries. The difficulties we outlined concerned the quality and price of commodities, the mode of payment, the flow of goods between the two countries, and economic cooperation between Romania and Iran.

Other bottlenecks referred to purchases by Iran, which have not increased. These were discussed in detail and we achieved positive results from this assessment. Our proposal was accepted by the Romanian officials and it was decided that a delegation would visit Iran concerning the price of accessories for tractors ordered and distributed by the Ministry of Commerce and for the purchase of the (?5001) tractors which have not yet been delivered. They have also agreed to import non-oil goods in lieu of 20 percent of the price of the (5001) tractors. The contract had been agreed upon earlier, based upon which it had been decided that the necessary machinery be sent (?in the future).

We held meetings with the energy minister and he agreed to follow up the matter of the (?exchange of goods) between the two countries. After detailed discussions, we decided that we could not export only oil to Romania. [as heard] The protocol envisages exports of 20 percent non-oil goods to Romania and an executive plan to examine the non-oil exports from Iran. The first step was the purchase of (5001) tractors, concerning which we specified that payment for 20 percent of the purchase would be comprised of non-oil exports on a quid pro quo basis.

Another reason why we signed the protocol and which proved positive for us was the supplying of raw material to us to produce goods for Romania or jointly for export. We would transport raw

materials from them, produce goods, and send those goods on to Romania or countries they specify. These were the positive points in the protocol which will enable us to use our optimum capacity and our production potential.

Concerning investment, they agreed to invest in chemical industries and to invest the return on the sale of products of those industries as well. These were the salient points of our agreement with this country.

We also had many meetings with Mr Ceausescu, International Trade Minister Pungan, Energy Minister Oprea [title as heard], the agriculture minister, and the chief of the Planning and Budget Committee of Romania. In our meeting with Mr Ceausescu, we discussed matters pertaining to chemical disarmament and the U.S. attack on Libya, which they (?castigated) vehemently and on which Romania has taken an overt stance.

Concerning the Iran-Iraq war, we asked Romania to take a firm stance and condemn the use of chemical weapons on the fronts. During this meeting, Mr Ceausescu said: We have written to Iraq and stressed that chemical weapons must not be used. This means that they recognize the fact that Iraq has used them and they have denounced it.

I also visited the industrial and agricultural centers in the city of (Porshu), an industrial city possessing a dam which is a model project and proves that it is possible to experiment in the field of agriculture in a manner that proves beneficial.

Pan-Africanist Congress Delegation Arrives 21 Apr

LD212128 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT
21 Apr 86

[Text] At the invitation of Foreign Minister Velayati, a 5-man delegation from the Pan-Africanist Congress arrived in Tehran this afternoon. The African delegation, which is headed by Johnson Malambo, will meet and hold talks with a number of our country's officials during its stay.

According to an IRNA report, on his arrival in Tehran Mr Malambo said to correspondents: We believe that no talks on reform in South Africa should be accepted. We believe that we should fight with all our might. For, under the present circumstances, the racist regime of South Africa can cause us to deviate from our aims during talks.

It should be recalled that in 1958 the Pan-Africanist Congress separated from the African National Congress. There are some African Muslims among its members.

Delegation To Buy Arms

EA222244 Nairobi DAILY NATION in English
22 Apr 86 p 4

[Article: "SA Militants Seek Arms From Iran"]

[Text] Five South African nationalists sent to buy arms in Iran passed through Nairobi at the weekend. They included the

Pan-Africanist Congress of Azania chairman, Mr Johnson Mlambo, and the PAC Administrative Secretary, Mr Joe Mkwana. He said they had been invited to Tehran by Iranian President Khamene'i when he visited the frontline states which border South Africa.

The PAC has its headquarters in Dar es Salaam. It was formed in 1949 and banned after 11 months by the racist regime in South Africa. Mr Mlambo, who was released from Robben Island Prison in 1983 after serving a 20-year jail sentence, said militants in his country needed arms to fight the apartheid government. They also required clothing, money and medicine for their supporters. The team will also ask Iran for moral support in various world forums.

Mr Mlambo said the congress fighters would soon attack civilians who support the regime "whether they are soldiers, men, women or children." Mr Mlambo said there were 60 PAC leaders on Robben Island, some of them serving life sentences while others had been condemned to death. He appealed for international pressure on South Africa to spare the lives of such activists as Francis Mkhosi (26), Theres Ramashamula, Duma Khumal, Reid Mokoena, Mojalefa Safatsa, and Moses Diniso, all of whom have been sentenced to hang.

Spokesman Denies Attack on Turkish Oil Tanker

LD221719 Tehran IRNA in English 1555 GMT 22 Apr 86

[Text] Tehran, April 22, IRNA — Iran has denied accusations that its war planes attacked a Turkish oil tanker *Atlas* in the Persian Gulf this week. A spokesman for the War Information Headquarters said the accusation was pure fabrication and an effort to damage Iran-Turkey relations. He said on the very hour that the ship was attacked on 20 April Iraq announced in its war communique Number 2195 that it had raided a naval target in the area.

All international organizations should work toward ending Iraqi raids on oil tankers in Persian Gulf, he said.

Reportage on Combat Operations in War With Iraq

Iraqi Helicopter Downed

LD221647 Tehran IRNA in English 1554 GMT 22 Apr 86

[Text] Ahvaz, April 22, IRNA — An Iraqi helicopter was downed in the southern war front, the operational military com-

mand, Khatam ol-Anbiya' said Tuesday. The helicopter crashed in the Khawr 'Abdallah waterway south of Iraq's Al-Faw Peninsula, scene of recent heavy fighting.

Communique No 2,448

LD221727 Tehran IRNA in English 1637 GMT 22 Apr 86

[Text] Tehran, April 22, IRNA — Artillery fire of Iranian Muslim combatants on Iraqi positions in the Western fronts Monday killed or wounded at least 10 Iraqi soldiers and demolished a number of gun emplacements and vehicles of their, according to a military communique here Tuesday.

Communique number 2448 of the Joint Staff Command of the Armed Forces says that fighting and artillery duels between Iranian Muslim forces and Iraqi troops continued in the southern fronts raging somewhat more heavily in Zobeydah, Sharhani and Kushk.

The command says that Iranian artillery fire pounded Iraqi positions in the southern fronts halting their operations.

In Nahr-Anbar, the communique says, a number of Iraqi vehicles were destroyed and all their crews were killed by artillery fire of Iranian Muslim troops.

Industrial centers and oil installations of Iraqi townships of Banmil and Naft Khaneh sustained substantial casualties and losses when they were hit by Iranian artillery fire, the communique says.

Muslim forces of Iran, the communique says, pounded Iraqi patrol units in Sumar and Qasr-e Shirin early Monday and stopped movement of enemy motorized units elsewhere in Maymak.

In the northwestern fronts, Iranian combatants despatched patrols to sensitive positions of Iraqi forces and shelled their positions destroying several bunkers and setting fire to one motor pool of theirs, a number of Iraqi soldiers were also killed or wounded.

Artillery fire of Iranian gendarmerie forces minimized engineering operations of Iraqi troops and inflicted heavy casualties and losses on them, the communique says.

Meanwhile, heavy Iraqi artillery fire on the city of Abadan, Khuzestan Province damaged 17 houses and five shops Monday.

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

24 APRIL 1986

Moroccan Proposal for Arab Summit

Three Moroccan envoys currently visiting Arab countries are carrying a proposal by Moroccan King Hassan II to hold an Arab summit conference in Fez 28 April, a Moroccan envoy in Abu Dhabi told KUNA 24 April. He said the conference will discuss the "threats" to the Arab nation from its "far east to its far west," noting that the U.S. "aggression" against Libya will head the agenda but that the conference will also study other issues and seek ways to end inter-Arab differences. Another Moroccan envoy held talks in Tripoli with Colonel Mu'ammarr al-Qadhafi 23 April, according to JANA.

Libya

Reporting on Col al-Qadhafi's meeting with a group of Soviet journalists, TASS said the Libyan leader expressed "deep satisfaction" with the Soviet position on events in the southern Mediterranean and he stressed that Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev not only condemned the "aggressor" but also "seriously warned" it. Al-Qadhafi claimed that Libya could have attacked the 6th Fleet and NATO bases in southern Europe but "decided against it" in order to avoid escalating and broadening the conflict. As for the future, he warned of "possible operations on a larger scale" against Libya. In another development reported by TASS, Information and Culture Secretary Muhammad Sharif al-Din al-Fayturi claimed that the CIA and the Mosad are planning to stage "a major act of terrorism" which will be imputed to Libya in order to create "another pretext" for attacking that country. In Moscow, Libyan envoy Muhammad Sha'ban gave the Soviet foreign minister a message from Col al-Qadhafi, TASS also noted.

In the wake of EEC measures against Libya, a Foreign Liaison Bureau statement broadcast by Tripoli television condemned Europe's "submission" to U.S. "terrorism and banditry," asserting that the EEC has thereby placed itself in the same political position as the United States and Britain. The statement viewed the European Community's willingness to go along with the "frenzied state" of the United States and Britain as a "very grave matter." Meanwhile, a Libyan spokesman cited by KUNA denied that Libya has decided to expel Western journalists in retaliation for the EEC boycott of the Jamahiriyyah, contending that the decision to send some foreign journalists home was made because of lack of hotel space. Other journalists whose arrival had been prevented by the lack of hotel accommodations will now be able to come to Libya, he said. The Information Bureau likewise denied that journalists were being expelled, but noted that they have been asked to leave as quickly as possible since their program is now over. London PRESS ASSOCIATION reported. Stockholm radio said nearly 200 journalists left Libya 23 April, noting that the authorities have asked U.S. and EEC journalists to leave by 25 April.

In other Libyan developments, Tripoli television broadcast film allegedly depicting the wreckage of a U.S. plane salvaged from the sea 23 April. JANA reported that Armed Forces Commander Brigadier Abu Bakr Yunis Jabir held further talks with Palestinian officials, who included Sa'id Musa Muragha, secretary of the Fatah "provisional leadership," and PFLP-GC Secretary General Ahmad Jibril.

Lebanon

The management of the daily *AL-NAHAR* disclosed that it is in possession of a film showing the execution by hanging of British UNRWA journalist Alec Collett, AFP reported. The Revolutionary Organization of Socialist Muslims claimed responsibility for executing Collett in a 17 April statement, the agency noted.

Iran-Iraq War

Iraq launched a "large-scale" offensive in the mountainous areas on the northern border with Iran the night of 22-23 April, a communique broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio stated, adding that Iraq liberated several mountain peaks, vantage points, and mountain traverses, in addition to inflicting "massive" losses on the Iranians. In a separate development, the Iraqi Air Force commander, in a news conference carried by INA 22 April, "warned" foreign nationals working at Iranian installations to leave "immediately," declaring that they would be responsible for the "grave consequences" resulting from their continued work in Iran. The commander also "warned" foreign airlines and shipping companies to end trips to Iran, asserting that a continuation of such trips "will force" Iraq to act in accordance with its national interests.

On the Iranian side, a communique cited by IRNA reported that five Iranian civilians were injured in an Iraqi air attack on villages in a suburb of Zivah township, West Azarbayjan Province.

In further reportage on the alleged attempt to smuggle U.S. arms to Iran, an Iranian military spokesman, in a statement to the paper *KAYHAN* cited by IRNA, denied such allegations, asserting that the claims were designed to "divert" attention from the U.S. Administration's problems following the "defeated" U.S. attack on Libya. Meanwhile, Israel continued to deny any involvement in the alleged arms smuggling operation. Jerusalem television noted the Israeli prime minister's office's categorical denial of any Israeli connection with the affair, and Jerusalem radio reported that the Israeli Defense Ministry's director general found no evidence of any direct or indirect Israeli link to the plan following a "thorough" investigation.

DRA

In further reportage on fighting at the rebels' base at Zhawar, rebel sources cited by AFP announced that 125 mujahidin were killed and 220 were injured in clashes that ended 22 April following the joint DRA-Soviet forces' withdrawal to Khowst after having "taken" the base 20 April. On the other hand, a

mujahidin commander cited by AFP denied that the base had been taken, and he claimed that the joint forces suffered 282 dead and 300 captured, in addition to the loss of 6 planes and 5 helicopters. In a similar report, Karachi radio, citing information from the DRA, asserted that the joint forces were "forced to retreat" to Khowst following "fierce" fighting in Zhawar and Paktia.

FBIS**DAILY REPORT
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Keshtmand Returns to Kabul Following USSR Visit
LD232055 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT
 23 Apr 86

[Excerpt] Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand, member of the Politburo of the PDPA Central Committee and chairman of the DRA Council of Ministers, who headed a high-ranking governmental delegation on an official and friendly visit to the USSR at the invitation of the Soviet Government, this afternoon returned to Kabul from Moscow on a special plane.

At Kabul airport Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand and his delegation were welcomed by the members of the Politburo and Secretariat of the PDPA Central Committee; vice chairmen and members of the DRA Council of Ministers; the president of the Supreme Court; and Fikryat Ahmed Zhanovich Tabeyev, ambassador and extraordinary representative of the USSR in Kabul.

Keshtmand Delegation Pays Official Visit to USSR

For Soviet reportage and BAKHTAR accounts of the visit to Moscow by a DRA delegation led by Chairman of the Council of Ministers Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand, including talks with Chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers Nikolay Ryzhkov, dinner speeches by Keshtmand and Ryzhkov, and the signing of a cooperation treaty, see the South Asia section of the 23 April Soviet Union *DAILY REPORT* and subsequent issues.

BAKHTAR Comments on Planned Talks With Pakistan
LD201220 Kabul BAKHTAR in Dari 1130 GMT 18 Apr 86

[Text] Kabul, 18 Apr [BAKHTAR] — BAKHTAR's political commentator writes: Various announcements and commentaries have recently been published in Islamabad and capitals of a number of Western countries by official figures and the mass media concerning the seventh round of talks between Afghanistan and Pakistan to be held in Geneva.

Meanwhile, efforts have been made to misrepresent and deliberately falsify the agreements reached during the March consultations of Cordovez in Kabul and Islamabad. In particular, the talk about the draft [words indistinct] reciprocal relations between various elements concerning a political solution to events regarding Afghanistan which, during Cordovez' visit to Kabul were presented to him by Afghanistan to be handed over to Pakistan. They emphasize that the timetable for the withdrawal of the limited units of the Soviet Union, which is embodied in this document, is allegedly unacceptable because the withdrawal of the units should take place within months, not years.

The Pakistan side and all forces behind it are trying to exert direct pressure on the DRA prior to the commencement of the seventh rounds of talks, and they remain silent about the importance of practical and constructive steps taken by the Afghan side.

This measure has been reflected in the draft document regarding reciprocal relations which was put before Pakistan through Cordovez, and also about the agreement concerning direct talks

with Pakistan after the completion of talks and approval of all four documents regarding the political solution of events. This indicates a big concession to the Pakistan side, another soft attitude, and a logical approach by Afghanistan aimed at reaching a political solution of events and providing the possibility to unravel the knots concerning this issue.

It should be mentioned that the Pakistan side, as regards the issue of the time for the withdrawal of the limited units of the Soviet Union, is endeavoring to dictate its conditions and to deliberately ignore the fact that the contents of the document concerning reciprocal relations not only concerns Pakistan but, more importantly, also concerns the DRA and the USSR. In this respect it should be mentioned that the DRA would never allow any one to impose conditions affecting the issues of safeguarding independence and national sovereignty.

The withdrawal of the limited units of the Soviet Union, as admitted by the Pakistan side — although linked with the normalization of events in Afghanistan — is an issue within the jurisdiction of the DRA and the Soviet Union. It should again be mentioned that the leaders of the DRA and the Soviet Union have many times pointed out in this respect that the withdrawal of troops is only possible under the circumstances of complete cessation of intervention and of a guarantee for nonrepetition of military intervention from abroad in the internal affairs of Afghanistan.

It should be pointed out that every attempt to exert pressure on the DRA or to reduce the effectiveness of the constructive measures of [words indistinct] for the political solution of events regarding Afghanistan are doomed to defeat.

Those who think that the flexibility and soft attitude of the Afghan side for the normalization of the situation is a sign of weakness have made a mistake. This flexibility, indeed, masks the profound interest of the DRA for a political solution to events, and now it is Pakistan's turn to reply to this initiative and execute its assertions about the normalization of events regarding Afghanistan in a practical manner. If the process of talks is again halted, no one will doubt who is to blame.

AFP: Guerrillas Suffer 125 Dead in Zhawar Battle
BK240040 Hong Kong AFP in English 0030 GMT 24 Apr 86

[Text] Islamabad, April 23 (AFP) — Afghan guerrillas suffered 125 dead and 220 injured in prolonged fighting with government troops for the guerrilla base of Zhawar, near the Pakistan border, mujahidin sources said Wednesday.

Guerrilla sources and Pakistani officials said fighting for the base, which protects one of the main rebel supply routes, ended Tuesday with Afghan-Soviet troops withdrawing to Khowst after having taken the base last Sunday.

Radio Kabul, in a broadcast monitored here, said the Zhawar base had been destroyed and all the "counter-revolutionaries" wiped out.

Rebel commander, Jalalluddin Haqqani, who was being treated in Pakistan, denied the camp had been taken, but confirmed the losses and that the Soviet-Afghan troops had withdrawn. He said five helicopters and six planes had been shot down by rebel forces and that 282 government and Soviet forces had been killed and 300 captured. The attack on Zhawar started on April 4.

DIE WELT Interviews Resistance Fighter

DW240715 Bonn DIE WELT in German 23 Apr 86 p 6

[Walter H. Rueb report: "What Is Moscow Doing in Afghanistan's West?" — all names as published]

[Text] Bonn — The Soviet forces in Afghanistan have concentrated strong troop and tank units in the west of Afghanistan on the Iranian border. Motives have been unclear so far. Guerrilla leader Jallah Uddin from the much embattled Afghan western provinces talked of 50,000 Soviet soldiers, 4,000 tanks, 400 fighter aircraft and helicopters, as well as rocket launching sites. The positions are said to have been discovered by American reconnaissance satellites.

In an interview with *DIE WELT* in Bonn, Uddin said: "The Soviets are starting their barbaric air raids on Afghan cities and villages from their Shindand air base, which lies 120 kilometers south of Herat. And the Russian tanks have freedom of movement in the flat terrain along the Iranian border."

Uddin, who is 35 years old today, had been an officer in the Afghan Army until the Soviet invasion; subsequently he joined the resistance. Nowadays he is in command of 15,000 well-armed resistance fighters in the border Province of Herat in northwest Afghanistan. "In spite of their superiority in weapons the Russians have so far not succeeded in controlling Herat," he said. "We control 80 percent of the province's territory. The Soviets

do not venture to Herat, where the number of inhabitants has risen from 70,000 to 100,000 despite heavy destruction and many dead. The mujahidin have full control of the city."

According to Uddin, "Thousands of Soviet soldiers and more than half their tanks and aircraft do not participate in the fighting. From that fact it can be assumed that the Soviets are pursuing other ends," the guerrilla leader said. "Soldiers and weapons are standing by. According to observations by compatriots who were able to approach the missile sites, which were strictly blocked off, the missiles are directed toward the south and west — that means toward Pakistan's Baluchistan and Iran."

The fact that in western Afghanistan — except for 1,000 Afghan government soldiers — no Karmal troops are based, is for Uddin an indication that the Soviets have something to hide. Uddin said: "Yet among the resistance fighters morale continues to be good. Morale is not affected even by hunger." Most of all, there is a need for flour and meat. "The Russians are burning crops and killing cows, horses and sheep," said Uddin, adding, "the drought in recent years and compulsory recruitment for the Karmal army have also contributed to the food shortage. Much land cannot be cultivated; it lies fallow."

As Uddin said, there is no shortage of gasoline in the province along the northernmost part of the ring road in western Afghanistan and the oil pipeline between the Afghan-Soviet border town of Torghundi and Shindand. "Whenever we need fuel we assault convoys, or we tap the pipeline," Uddin said. "The legendary resistance leader Isma'el Khan is managing civilian concerns in the Herat area. Most of all, he is taking care of improving medical care, and is trying to stop the stream of refugees. The population of the province has decreased from 1.5 million to 1 million inhabitants. The refugees are heading toward Iran. My four children and my wife already live there."

Gorbachev Selected for 1986 Peace Award

*BK230406 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT
23 Apr 86*

[Text] Mr Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the Soviet Communist Party, has been selected for the Chalapathy Rao Memorial Award for promotion of world peace and international understanding for 1986. This is the second award in the series. Mr Julius Nyerere of Tanzania won the award last year. The award carries a trophy, a medal, a citation and robe of honor.

Reportage on Visit of Seychelles President**Arrives in Delhi 22 Apr**

*BK220921 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT
22 Apr 86*

[Text] The president of the Seychelles, Mr France Albert Rene, was accorded a warm welcome when he arrived in New Delhi from Bombay this morning. The president, Giani Zail Singh; the prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi; his cabinet colleagues; and diplomats were at the airport to receive him. Mr Rene called on the president, Giani Zail Singh, at Rashtrapati Bhavan [President's House]. The meeting lasted about 30 minutes.

The Seychelles president, who is on an 8-day official visit to the country, will also be meeting the prime minister, the external affairs minister, and the minister of state for defense during his stay in the capital. He will discuss with the Indian leaders matters of mutual interest. Before leaving for Seychelles on the 28th of this month, Mr Rene will also pay a visit to Srinagar.

Meets With Gandhi

*BK221613 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT
22 Apr 86*

[Text] India and the Seychelles have held talks focusing on possibilities of greater Indian participation in the island's economic development, particularly in the field of oil exploration and industry. The threat posed to littoral states by militarization of the Indian Ocean also came up for discussion during the hour-long meeting between the prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, and the president of the Seychelles, Mr France Albert Rene, at Rashtrapati Bhawan [President's House] in New Delhi today. According to official sources, Mr Gandhi and Mr Rene met by themselves before being joined by their delegations.

Mr Gandhi briefed Mr Rene about the recent meeting of the Nonaligned Coordination Bureau and the six-nation initiative on

peace and disarmament. The situation in South Africa also came up at the talks.

Feted by President

*BK230428 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT
23 Apr 86*

[Text] India and Seychelles have expressed concern over the growing threats to world peace and security from nuclear armament and conversion of Indian Ocean into an arena of great power rivalry. Speaking at a banquet hosted in honor of the visiting president of Seychelles, Mr France Albert Rene, in New Delhi last night, President Giani Zail Singh called for increased efforts to end military presence of nonlittoral states in the Indian Ocean. The two leaders pleaded for an early convening of the international conference on the Indian Ocean. Giani Zail Singh and Mr Rene welcomed the recent global efforts for disarmament. In this context, the visiting president welcomed the convening of the international conference on relationship between disarmament and development scheduled this summer in Paris. The two leaders also condemned the continued practise of apartheid in South Africa and its illegal occupation of Namibia.

Curfew Imposed on Bihar Town After Group Clash

*BK231604 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT
23 Apr 86*

[Text] In Bihar, curfew was clamped on Nawada town for 24 hours from 0600 this morning as a precautionary measure following a clash between two groups of people. According to official sources, some houses were set ablaze during the clash and 12 persons sustained injuries; 62 persons have been arrested so far. Police patrolling has been intensified and the situation is under control.

Extremists Arrested in Manipur; Arms Recovered

*BK221613 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT
22 Apr 86*

[Text] In Manipur, two extremists belonging to the outlawed People's Liberation Army were arrested at Imphal this afternoon after a raid on their suspected hideout. Two pistols, 1 revolver and 30 rounds of ammunition were also recovered from them. Giving this information, the superintendent of Imphal police told our correspondent that a United Socialist Revolutionary Party member was also arrested by the police at Imphal last night. This is the third major breakthrough by the police in apprehending extremists in Manipur during the last 1 week.

1 Killed, 21 Injured in Orangi; Curfew Imposed
BK230356 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT
 23 Apr 86

[Text] A press note issued last night by the district magistrate of Karachi West says that 5-6,000 persons demonstrated after attending the funeral in Orangi at about 1100 [0600 GMT] for those killed by fire in Mohammadpur camp in Bangladesh. They demanded immediate repatriation of Bihari Pakistanis staying in Bangladesh. Some mischief mongers disrupted traffic during their demonstration and made their target the government and private vehicles and houses in the vicinity. The enraged group forced shopkeepers to close. During the disturbance some unruly elements became violent and started throwing stones which led to a clash between two rival groups.

Law enforcement officers dispersed the crowd and brought the situation under control. Although the mobs were dispersed, the situation remained tense. To defuse tension, three provincial ministers, Al Haj Shamimuddin, Mohammad Athak Siddiqui and (Rohaer Akram Nabbi) went to Orangi. Despite these efforts, peace could not be restored. Due to the reinforcement of law enforcement personnel and close watch and vigil there was no unpleasant incident.

However, the situation remains tense. The local administration is maintaining a careful watch. In light of the situation, various measures, including curfew, are being taken. According to reports one person was killed and about 21 people, including 10 from law enforcement groups, were injured. Cases have been filed against troublemakers; thus far 41 persons have been arrested.

President on 'Regrettable' Incident
BK231622 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT
 23 Apr 86

[Excerpts] President Mohammad Ziaul Haq has said the people have freely chosen their representatives for the national and provincial assemblies and these representatives will, God willing, complete their term. He was talking to newsmen at the Sukkur airport on his arrival there this afternoon.

Referring to the Afghanistan problem, the president said that Soviet leader Gorbachev has again described this as a festering wound. He understands that a solution to this problem fully depends on the Soviet Union, the president added. He said there is no doubt that the Afghan people will be able to return to their homeland with honor and dignity. Answering a question whether direct talks with the Karmal administration are possible, the president said not now.

In reply to a question, the president said that the incident in Karachi yesterday is regrettable. It was unnecessary. We all were deeply shocked and distressed when we learned about the loss of life and property in a fire at Biharis' camps in Dhaka. The government asked the Pakistani Embassy in Dhaka to send full details and advised it to see what it could do for alleviating sufferings and difficulties of the affected people. The government

has also asked the embassy to assess what assistance it can provide to the affected people.

Earlier, the president was received by Sind Chief Minister Syed Ghouse Ali Shah, Minister of State for Production Islamuddin Sheikh, and others at the airport. The president was accompanied by the Sind governor, Lieutenant General Jahandad Khan retired, and Punjab Governor Makhdom Mohammad Sajjad Hussain Qureshi.

Prime Minister Sees 'Ray of Hope' in DRA Talks
BK231202 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT
 23 Apr 86

[Text] The prime minister, Mr Mohammad Khan Junejo, has assured that Pakistan will continue to extend help to Afghan refugees till their return to their homeland in safety and honor. He was addressing Afghan refugees at Malgatai refugee tentage village near Muslimbagh this morning. The prime minister said the Afghan people were uprooted and forced to take refuge in Pakistan due to Soviet intervention in their country. The Pakistan Government has been trying all along and putting all possible international pressure on the Soviet Union to withdraw its forces from Afghanistan to enable honorable return of Afghan refugees to their country.

The prime minister said some ray of hope is visible from the next round of Geneva talks toward the solution of this problem. He told the Afghan refugees that the entire world supported their case and as many as 122 countries supported Pakistan's resolution on Afghanistan in the United Nations. Referring to the demands raised in the address of welcome, the prime minister assured that these will be looked into and met as far as possible. He directed the authorities to register all the refugees to ensure adequate supply of rations and other essential commodities to them.

Earlier, an Afghan refugee elder, Mr Mohammad Arif Advocate, in his address of welcome thanked the Pakistan Government and people for providing them shelter and other facilities. The prime minister was accompanied by the Baluchistan governor, retired General Mohammad Musa; the provincial chief minister, Jam Mir Ghulam Qadir Khan; and federal ministers Mr Mohyuddin Baluch and Mir Haji Karim.

Later addressing a big public meeting at Loralai, the prime minister said it was the earnest desire of his government to establish real democracy and supremacy of Islamic laws in the country. Radio Pakistan's representative says people from far-flung areas had gathered at the meeting place to listen to the prime minister. On arrival at Loralai, the prime minister was given a rousing welcome.

Karachi: Soviet-Karmal Forces Retreat to Khowst
BK240330 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT
 24 Apr 86

[Text] Reports from Afghanistan say that Soviet-Karmal forces have been forced to retreat toward Khowst city after several days

of fierce fighting in Paktia and Zhawar. Soviet-Karmal forces suffered a heavy loss of life and equipment at the hands of the mujahidin. Another report says many persons from both sides were killed or wounded. Meanwhile, a State Department spokesman said that Soviet-Karmal forces were unsuccessful in capturing the Zhawar position.

Soviet-DRA Troops Killed; 2 Helicopters Destroyed
BK241027 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT
 24 Apr 86

[Text] In Afghanistan, mujahidin are reported to have killed 12 Soviet-Karmal troops during an attack on a military camp in Anar Darreh town in Farrah Province. The Afghan mujahidin shot down a Soviet helicopter gunship in the border area of Spin Buldak of Qandahar Province. The pilot and other members of the crew were killed. In an attack on Shindand Soviet military airport, the mujahidin destroyed the airport control room and a helicopter. Twenty Soviet-Karmal troops were killed in the attack.

Further Reportage on Visit of PRC Vice Minister

Technical Cooperation Discussed
BK231625 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT
 23 Apr 86

[Text] Technical cooperation between Pakistan and China was discussed at separate meetings between Chinese Vice Minister for Machine Building Industry Zhao Minsheng and federal ministers Dr Mahbubul Haq, retired Lieutenant General Jamal Said Mian, and Mian Mohammad Yasin Khan Watto in Islamabad today. During a meeting with the federal minister for planning and development, it was agreed that China will provide special coal utilization technology to Pakistan so that it can utilize its low standard local coal, especially for generating electricity in Baluchistan.

The federal minister for water and power apprised the Chinese minister of the steps taken to end shortages of electricity. He also explained to him the specific aspects of the irrigation system in Pakistan.

During his meeting with the federal minister for finance, Mian Mohammad Yasin Khan Watto, the Chinese minister said his country is keenly interested in assisting Pakistan in the field of energy. The finance minister stressed the need for further expanding trade relations between Pakistan and China.

Nonaligned Meeting Viewed With Satisfaction
BK221607 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT
 22 Apr 86

[Text] A foreign office spokesman said in Islamabad today that overall Pakistan is satisfied with the outcome of the ministerial conference of the Nonaligned Coordinating Bureau which concluded in New Delhi on Saturday. The spokesman told newsmen that the conference provided a useful opportunity to adopt a

unified stand on many issues. The spokesman added that the nonaligned countries maintained their past principled stand on Afghanistan.

The conference again supported a political settlement of the Afghan issue based on the withdrawal of foreign troops from Afghanistan and indirect talks in Geneva. This has provided a political backing in connection with progress on the fourth instrument regarding the withdrawal of foreign troops from Afghanistan.

The ministerial conference ratified Pakistan's proposal which stressed that the nonaligned countries should remain committed to the principles of the UN Charter in connection with the implementation of the UNGA and UNSC resolutions and should seek the peaceful solution of disputes according to procedures laid down in those resolutions.

The conference expressed support and solidarity with Libya over the American action. The Pakistan delegation took an active part in the special session held in this connection and joined other nonaligned members in expressing full support and solidarity with Libya.

The spokesman said the other regional issues considered at the conference included Southeast Asia, Palestinian rights, South Africa and Namibia. The Pakistan delegation fully supported the text of the declaration on these issues.

Pakistan also fully supported Turkey's stand on the Cyprus issue and reserved its opinion on the proposal on Cyprus. The spokesman said the conference welcomed those unilateral and regional measures which various nonaligned countries have taken in connection with disarmament.

The spokesman said this is a clear vindication of the steps taken by Pakistan in connection with South Asia. Pakistan successfully explained the position of nonaligned countries on all major international economic issues as reflected in all significant decisions taken at the recently held SARC ministerial conference.

The conference also discussed with considerable interest Prime Minister Junejo's proposal that a multilateral forum be set up for North-South dialogue. The conference supported this proposal.

The spokesman said the conference highly commended the important and constructive role played by Pakistan on all significant political and economic issues. The spokesman said this has enhanced Pakistan's prestige and it is now being recognized as an important member of the Nonaligned Movement.

AFP: 100,000 Greet Bhutto in North-West Frontier
BK220735 Hong Kong AFP in English 0722 GMT 22 Apr 86

[Text] Islamabad, April 22 (AFP) — Pakistani opposition leader Benazir Bhutto, 32, scored a new success in her campaign against President Mohammed Ziaul Haq, when over 100,000 greeted her first sortie into Northwest Frontier Province.

The province, in contact with the war in Afghanistan, is less obviously fertile territory for her than Punjab, where all her earlier meetings had been held since she returned from self-imposed exile in Britain 12 days ago.

Many Pakistanis had been waiting to see if her campaign faltered after its initial thrust at mass meetings in the Punjab. But her journey by road from here to the Northwest Frontier city of Peshawar Monday was again slowed by enthusiastic supporters, and her meeting, planned for the afternoon, did not take place until 9:00 p.m.

Miss Bhutto's Pakistani People's Party (PPP) is well installed in Punjab, the country's most heavily populated province, but the Bhutto family's name has not always been as well received in the Northwest Frontier. Miss Bhutto's father, former Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, was tried and hanged two years after General Zia overthrew him in 1977.

Miss Bhutto Monday repeated her call for new elections and Gen. Zia's departure. She also charged that heroin traffic in the region was organised by those who said they were fighting it. The frontier province is the region's principal heroin producer, because of the poppies grown there and across the border in Afghanistan.

DAWN Editorial on Return of Benazir Bhutto
GF201124 Karachi DAWN in English 17 Apr 86 p 11

[Editorial: "Renewal of the Political Process — Pains and Pitfalls"]

[Text] The current phase of political life, which began with the withdrawal of Martial Law in December last year, has so far been largely free from the vituperation and violence that sometimes accompany such a process in unstable political societies.

Despite occasional high-spiritedness - which is perfectly natural, given the fact that for eight-and-a-half years normal political activity was under suspension and airing of political views and sentiments was severely discouraged - crowds attending political rallies and taking part in processions have generally avoided disorderly behaviour and violence. By and large, they have limited themselves to chanting slogans, which is a normal thing in any manner of political activity. Not everyone in a big rally or procession is necessarily a stickler for propriety and refined etiquette. And those indulging in verbal excesses or raising slogans exuding desperation or bitterness cannot be incontinently condemned for letting off steam.

Even the massive and emotionally-charged gatherings in Lahore that marked Ms Benazir Bhutto's return to the country did not witness any unsavoury incident. The restraint and self-control shown in recent months by political organisations and their followers is highly commendable, and it is to be hoped that no deviation from this healthy trend will be allowed or encouraged. One feels hopeful that if the pattern is maintained and institutionalised, it is bound to prove helpful in forming new political habits and in strengthening norms of responsible public and

political conduct. The authorities' policy of non-interference is equally praiseworthy.

It is vital for our future that the decision to revive democracy is not reversed or diluted on the basis of a hasty judgement or rough-and-ready assessments. For this, an unruffled attitude, tempered by a proper understanding of the unavoidable features of a new phase of democratic reassertion on the part of the government, is as important as caution and restraint on the part of political parties, which should take care to keep their activities within the limits prescribed by moderation and healthy respect for plurality of views and opinions.

Inevitably, there are those who look askance at the democratic process in any form usually because they see their narrow interests directly or indirectly threatened. For the vast majority, however, the resurgence of political activity is proving a valuable educational experience. It catalyses political thought and increases awareness of fundamental issues. Street corner meetings and teashop debates on topics ranging from the price of vegetable oil to the question of basic political and constitutional rights are not to be frowned upon.

History shows that nations which give themselves the right kind of opportunity to raise their level of collective consciousness and do not shy away from the rough and tumble of political life strengthen themselves in the process and invariably profit in terms of both political and socio-economic development. After long years in the wilderness, we have resumed our journey on a path that promises to lead us towards all-round progress. It would be most unfortunate if forces implacably opposed to our forward march were to gain ascendancy at this crucial juncture.

In its context, a heavy responsibility rests upon the shoulders of politicians. In particular, they must show a realistic appreciation of the fact that we are still at the early stage of a delicate political and democratic transition with its own limitations and tolerance levels which simply cannot be wished away. This fact alone is enough to drive home the need for hardheaded realism, circumspection and restraint in conducting political activities — in staging rallies and processions in particular. Secondly, to help the present nascent process, they must adhere strictly to some basic ground rules of political conduct aimed at two pivotal considerations. One is not to put too severe a strain on public peace and order and that means avoiding disruptions and dislocation on a scale that could be used to justify administrative curbs on one or another form of political activity. The second factor is an attitude of mutual respect and tolerance among parties and their leaders, free from mudslinging and slanderous utterances. It needs hardly to be emphasised that if the parties expect the Government to be tolerant towards their dissenting role, they must practise it themselves in relation to one another.

The pre-eminence of personalities in politics is a common worldwide phenomenon. It is particularly so in States with poorly-developed political institutions — Pakistan being one of them. In fact, our 'interest in personalities' often borders on the obsessive. This is an unhealthy national characteristic, which must be checked by politicians themselves. One method of achieving this would be to limit criticism to parties and their policies, avoiding attacks on personalities.

Ms Benazir Bhutto is reported to have issued instructions to PPP [Pakistan People's Party] workers against abusive sloganeering. This is a welcome sign. Malevolence creates unnecessary bitterness which, in turn, can provoke intemperate, even violent reactions. For political activities to proceed smoothly, it is imperative that excesses of all kinds and acerbity in speech are avoided. Unpleasantness could spark off a vicious cycle of violent reaction, which would, in turn, damage the democratic process.

Therefore, it is incumbent on political parties to ensure that there is not the slightest departure from the kind of discipline maintained so far during public meetings and processions. At the same time, they should be on guard against "agents provocateurs." The Government, on the other hand, would do well to take a reasoned view of the current political proceedings and let the process run its course without any let or hindrance. It must be realised that if the present initial mass-contact programme of various parties has generated an unusual degree of heat and excitement, it can only be a transient phenomenon. In due course, it will give way to a more organised and orderly form of activity. No undue concern need, therefore, be entertained over the implications of the present phase. On the other hand, any hasty move to restrict process at this early stage will not only deepen the overall political alienation but will also stunt the development of the newly initiated democratic process which is critically important to the country's future.

Khomeyni Attends Ceremony; Speakers Attack U.S.
LD241144 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT
 24 Apr 86

[Text] On the eve of the auspicious birthday of the only saviour of mankind and the great standard bearer of those destined to guide human beings, his great eminence, the remnant of God — may our souls and the souls of all creatures of the world be sacrificed for him — this morning the inhabitants of Jamaran organized glorious ceremonies at the Hoseyniyeh-e Jamaran [mosque at Khomeyni's residence in Tehran]. For these celebrations, Hoseyniyeh-e Jamaran and its environs were decorated with illuminations. They were attended by a large group of Jamaran's inhabitants, various strata of the Hezbollahi people and officials in charge of the 15th Khordad Foundations from different parts of the country, accompanied by the supervisor of this foundation — Hojjat ol-Eslam val Moslemin Sheykh Hasan Sane'i — and a group of clergy and religious students. Eulogies were sung in praise of that great man, for the advent of whom the entire world is counting the moments.

Imam Khomeyni also attended the ceremonies.

During these ceremonies, Hojjat ol-Eslam imam-Jamarani, the imam's representative and the supervisor of the Hajj, Endowments and Charity Affairs Organization, offered congratulations to the imam of the ummah and the martyr-nurturing ummah of Iran on the occasion of the great and very glorious birthday of his great eminence, the remnant of God, may God hasten his lofty advent.

Afterwards, referring to the holy verse, which says: Almighty God has decided that the meek shall inherit the earth and become the leaders of society, Hojjat ol-Eslam imam-Jamarani made a speech on the coming rule of the Hidden Imam — may God hasten his lofty advent — while pointing out that the Islamic revolution of Iran and its leadership have the honor of moving forward in accordance with the will and desire of the Awaited Lord, and stressing that it is only the Islamic Republic and its leadership that are paving the way for the rule of the meek, which is one of the global objectives of the Lord of the Era, may God hasten his lofty advent. He referred to the recent conspiracies of global arrogance, headed by the world-devouring United States, and added that all these desperate conspiracies and last-ditch efforts and night ambush attacks of the arch-satan and its allies on the sanctum of the meek and the oppressed are signs of their abjectness, helplessness and feebleness toward the nations and of their ever-increasing fear from the expansion of waves of the Islamic revolution.

He went on to say that with the succor of Almighty God, a day will come when the deprived people of the world, by receiving inspirations from the leadership of the Iranian Islamic revolution and eventually from the advent of the His Great Eminence the Remnant of God, will uproot corruption and sedition from every corner of the world in order to determine their own fate in accordance with divine instructions.

At the conclusion of these ceremonies, the imam of the ummah responded to the sentiments expressed by the audience.

Spokesman Denies Reports of Attempted Arms Smuggling
LD231349 Tehran IRNA in English 1245 GMT 23 Apr 86

[Text] Tehran, April 23, IRNA — Iran Wednesday denied claims that it had tried to obtain dollars 2.5 billion worth of U.S. made weapons through illegal channels. A spokesman for the War Information Headquarters said "the case is hasty scenario by ruling groups in America. The elements, including the supply of dollars 2.5 billion worth of arms, participation of Israeli generals and probably the story of Israeli arms sale to Iran, all indicate the plot".

"Everyone knows that purchase of advance arms from the U.S. needs complex discussions and long studies" he told the *KAY HAN* newspaper. "Those who designed this scenario had forgotten that the case would implicitly indicate height of corruption in the U.S. Armed Force."

Press reports claim a group of people, including an Israeli general, have been arrested on charges of trying to illegally sell Iran missiles, jet fighters, bombers, helicopters and tanks.

The spokesman said the story was designed to divert attention from the difficulties the government in Washington was facing. "Since the U.S. failed to achieve its aims in bringing down the government of Colonel al-Qadhafi, it is now trying to divert public attention from the issue", he said. "The case is a propaganda design aimed at exploiting the defeated American attack on Libya" he said. But he also added "our enemies are trying to create difficulties for Iran in purchasing arms. But there is competition in the Western Market." "Those who want to sell their arms are always proposing. These plots will be of no use", he said.

On the presence of U.S. warship, *Benjamin*, in the Sea of Oman and the Persian Gulf the spokesman said "at the moment the destroyer is sailing outside the security waters of the Islamic Republic of Iran." "Warnings have been sent to the destroyer about entering the security zone" he said. "Units of the Navy are watching all provocation in the Persian Gulf and the Sea of Oman with due attention" he added.

Meanwhile the post office in Tehran said it had printed a stamp to mark the sixth anniversary of the aborted 25 April U.S. military attack on the Islamic Republic. A group of U.S. servicemen died when their helicopters collided on a mission to free U.S. spy diplomats held in Tehran.

President Khamene'i Reiterates Support for Libya
LD231317 Tehran IRNA in English 1210 GMT 23 Apr 86

[Text] Tehran, April 23, IRNA — President 'Ali Khamene'i said here Wednesday while some Persian Gulf countries did not condemn the recent U.S. aggression against Libya, even in words, Iran announced it was prepared to take any serious measure against the aggressor. The president said "oppressor countries are now well aware that they cannot bully the Islamic Republic of Iran."

He was addressing a group of professors and theological students in a commemoration ceremony held on the eve of the second anniversary of the martyrdom of Hojjat ol-Eslam Mehdi Shahabadi. Martyr Mehdi Shahabadi was the Majlis (parliament) deputy from Tehran in the first and second term of the Majlis. He was martyred on 26 April 1984 on a tour of the warfronts.

Khamene'i said "Islam and Islamic faith are what the global arrogance is afraid of, we do not feel weak in the face of the superpowers." U.S. F-111 fighter bombers launched a brutal attack on two Libyan cities of Tripoli and Benghazi from a base in Britain on 15 April killing and wounding a large number of Muslim Libyan civilians.

In conclusion, President Khamene'i lauded the mass presence of revolutionary nation of Iran throughout the warfronts.

Musavi: Economize on Nonmilitary Expenditures

LD231748 Tehran IRNA in English 1658 GMT 23 Apr 86

[Text] Tehran, April 23, IRNA — In a meeting with Cabinet ministers and visiting governors general of the provinces here Wednesday Prime Minister Musavi said that as long as oil prices should continue to remain at their current levels, the Islamic government would economize on non-military expenditures so that more resources could be earmarked for the war effort. He said in order to allocate more for the war effort both the government and the consumers would have to tighten their belt.

Musavi said that just as the Muslim combatants have proved their ability to end the war in victory for Iran, the Iranian nation, would "foil the oil price conspiracy in the economic arena." The prime minister said governors general should attach greater importance to revenue from exports and taxes.

Referring to the recent OPEC session, Musavi said Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Iraq are responsible for the failure of the conference whose outlooks have "betrayed the collaboration of regional reactionaries with global arrogance against the Islamic revolution." Oil prices have declined during the current year partly due to a production beyond assigned quotas by some OPEC member states and a glutted world market.

Musavi noted that the revolutionary people of Iran wish to cut their dependence on foreign countries and that oil price fluctuation is a good opportunity for the government to establish new consumption patterns at home.

The governors general had earlier met Ayatollah Montazeri as well as heads of the executive, legislative and judiciary.

Further Details

LD231859 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 23 Apr 86

[Text] In a speech at today's joint session of the Council of Ministers and the country's governors general, Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi said: Since the deployment of our combat

troops in Al-Faw we have witnessed a great number of developments in the region and throughout the world. These victorious operations in Al-Faw smashed the plot of a threatened war of attrition and thereby demonstrated that the war will end with a victory by Islam's troops.

Referring to the arrogants' vast plot against the oil producers, the prime minister said: The part played by Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, and Iraq in defeating the OPEC conference shows that the arrogants of the world and the regional reactionaries are united in their opposition to the Islamic revolution. Thanks to our perseverance in the war arena and our economic crusade, our nation will also smash this plot.

The prime minister added: Because of the current situation connected with oil prices, the government will be thrifty in its planning. We have already begun to take preliminary steps in this regard. Naturally, if we wish to commit greater resources to the war effort we will have to reduce public and governmental expenditures. In this regard our people have already demonstrated their readiness to make all kinds of sacrifices in order to cut off ties of dependence. In the same spirit, thrifty measures should be adopted in all economic sectors throughout the governments. In addition, the governors general should place greater importance on obtaining income through taxation and the development of exports. We also expect the deputies of our revolutionary Majlis to assist us in these efforts.

Referring to the use of current conditions as a springboard for a greater leap forward toward self-sufficiency and independence, the prime minister told the governors general: Our revolutionary people strongly desire a reduction of dependence at any price. The oil price fluctuations will compel us to exploit to the maximum this vigilant and selfless spirit of the people in order to create the appropriate models of consumption and life. This is a path that the Islamic revolution demands from us.

Musavi also noted that a need exists to adopt a decisive approach toward suspicious moves aimed at popularizing organized corruption. [as heard] The prime minister stressed in conclusion that the governors general should support the interests of the meek; the people's interests should not be sacrificed to the desires of a special group, he said. Bear in mind the behests of the Holy Imam 'Ali — may peace be upon him — to Malik al-Ahtar ['Ali's appointed governor, who he enjoined to look after the ordinary people].

Musavi Says Finance Ministry Thwarts Enemy Plots

LD211217 Tehran IRNA in English 0930 GMT 21 Apr 86

[Text] Tehran, April 21, IRNA — The minister of economics and financial affairs, Mohammad Javad Irvani, accompanied by his deputies, met and talked with Prime Minister Hoseyn Musave, here Sunday afternoon. Addressing the visitors the prime minister said that the ministry by solving the economic problems of the country play a major role in thwarting plots of the enemies of the Islamic revolution of Iran. He further added that the revolutionary people of Iran are able to resist and tackle any problem and thwart plots of the oppressors. The ministry, he

pointed out, through its sound and revolutionary plans should channel the public efforts on the right direction.

The prime minister said that Ministry of Economics and financial Affairs should promote the need for tax payment and should encourage the people to pay the due taxes as their religious obligation.

Reportage on 4-Day Meeting of Governors General

Montazeri, Mohtashami Speeches

LD222303 Tehran IRNA in English 0818 GMT 22 Apr 86

[Text] Tehran, April 22, IRNA — Interior Minister Hojjat ol-Eslam Akbar Mohtashami speaking at the opening day of the four-day seminar of governors general of the country here Monday, said that the emergence of the Islamic movement as a third power in the world is a direct result of the Islamic Revolution of Iran. Further in his speech he added that the victory of the Islamic Republic of Iran in the Iraqi-imposed war will create a revolution in the world as a result of which the U.S. Administration will experience the bitterness of defeat not only in the region but in Africa, Latin America, Asian and other parts of the world.

The interior minister stressed the need for greater cooperation between the governors general and the Friday prayers leaders and ulema of each locality. He stressed that ulema were the backbone of the Islamic Revolution of Iran and as long as they remained on the side of the revolution, it would remain invulnerable. However in the absence of such backing, he pointed out, the invulnerability of the revolution will come under question.

The interior minister and governors general attending the seminar met and talked with Ayatollah Hoseyn 'Ali Montazeri in the holy city of Qom Monday. Ayatollah Montazeri called on the provincial governors to send committed people to government organizations of each province to supervise attitude of staff of these institutions towards clients. Any employee who mishandles people's problems should be punished, he told the visitors. More in his speech Ayatollah Montazeri stressed the importance of reviving agricultural sector and said that in the light of all the current crisis and problems serious measures should be taken to rid the country's economy from being sustained by oil. To this end, the governors of each locality should provide the needed facilities to the farmers, he added. Ayatollah Montazeri also said that centralization of work in the capital should be decreased and governors general should be given more authority.

Meeting With Majlis Speaker

GF231045 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0900 GMT 23 Apr 86

[Text] Hashemi-Rafsanjani, Majlis speaker and the imam's representative in the Supreme Defense Council, during his meeting yesterday with governors in Tehran, has reaffirmed the need to confront the plot of international arrogance in reducing oil prices. He added: If our enemies are able to harm the OPEC struggle, we will be able to compensate for most of the revenue lost as a result of the drop in oil prices by temporarily increasing

the production ceiling. However, contrary to what the enemies of the Islamic revolution believe, our sacred defense at the fronts is not linked to the amount of oil we sell.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani noted the splendid and unparalleled eagerness shown by the Islamic people in Iran to leave for the battle-fronts. He said: Such morale and sacrifices increase our determination and self-confidence. Naturally our enemies, who do not enjoy such characteristics, must make special reckoning for Iran. They have actually done so.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani noted the anti-U.S. sentiments that are spreading all over the world following the recent U.S. aggression against Libya and the reactions of the peoples of the world to this aggression. He affirmed that these reactions are among the effects of the Islamic revolution. They have proved that it is not possible for anyone to stand against the will of a resisting and sacrificing people.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani also met with a number of construction officials from all over Iran. He addressed them: The war which has been imposed by the ruling regime in Iraq on the Islamic revolution has now reached a sensitive stage. The eager flocking of the popular mobilization forces to the fronts has shaken the world and instilled fear into the enemies' hearts.

'Treachery' Prevents Unanimity at OPEC Session

LD221430 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1100 GMT 22 Apr 86

[Unattributed political commentary]

[Excerpts] Following the implementation of the plan to continue the falling trend in oil prices, the 77th extraordinary OPEC session ended yesterday, Monday, without making a unanimous decision due to the overt treachery of its reactionary members.

The final statement of the conference, issued by the OPEC Secretariat, says: The decrease in output to 16.7 million barrels a day for the third half [as heard] of 1986 and the increase by 600,000 barrels in the fourth half [as heard] were approved by 10 OPEC members. Iran, Libya and Algeria called for a decrease in output to 14.5 million barrels in the third quarter.

It is clear that with the uncertain ending of the OPEC session, oil prices will not be increasing, and probably oil prices will be fixed at the present rates until the next OPEC session in Yugoslavia in June.

During the 16 days of the 77th OPEC session and the talks held and comments made, the West's cooperation with OPEC's reactionary wing to continue the falling trend in oil prices was clearly exposed. With their actions during the conference, countries such as Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Iraq and so forth showed that they are in fact the executors of the orders of their U.S. masters.

The failure of the 77th OPEC session -- at which hundreds of millions of dollars of Muslim wealth were wasted because of the plot to lower oil prices -- was another act of treason by countries like Saudi Arabia against the organization. The bitter memory

of the oil price drop in 1982 as a Christmas present, the \$5 drop in March 1983 and the \$1 drop in January 1984, which happened with the cooperation of these same countries with the West, is still fresh in the minds of the Muslim people in the region. No doubt, the outcome of the recent session and whatever happened during the session are the best means of exposing the traitors to OPEC and to the Muslim nations.

Majlis Speaker Urges Iraqis To Topple Regime

LD221333 Tehran IRNA in English 1246 GMT 22 Apr 86

[Text] Tehran, April 22, IRNA — Majlis (Parliament) Speaker Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani Tuesday called on supporters of Saddam Husayn to bring down the ruling Ba'th party in Iraq, or otherwise, he said "our combatants would do it with their rifles." The Majlis speaker said presence of Iranian combatants in the battlefields was a clear warning to Saddam Husayn and his supporters because volunteers who were going to the war fronts enthusiastically will not come back with empty hands. Addressing the supporters of the Iraqi regime, he said "we are speaking from a position of power and are waiting for your positive answer...(if you fail) you should look forward to a bitter destiny."

Last month the leader of the Islamic revolution, Imam Khomeyni called for a public mobilization for the war effort which was welcomed by the people.

Rafsanjani was addressing a caravan of paramilitary volunteers from Khorasan Province who gathered in front of the Majlis before going to the warfronts. President 'Ali Khamene'i, Majlis deputies and a number of Cabinet ministers had also come to see off the caravan.

Elsewhere in his speech, the Majlis speaker described the presence of people in the battlefield as a victory. He said the nation which has maintained its unity in the course of the nearly six-year-old Iraqi imposed war would certainly achieve victory over the Baghdad government.

The caravan, the second going to the warfronts from Khorasan Province since 21 March, was composed of a battalion of theologians, a division of worker and civil servant volunteers and three ordinary combat divisions. Similar caravans have been leaving cities, towns and villages across the country towards confrontation lines. Volunteers say they fight for defense of the Islamic motherland.

Further on Pan-African Congress Delegation Visit

Meets With Foreign Minister

GF230630 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT 23 Apr 86

[Text] According to a Central News Unit report, the Pan-African Congress delegation visiting Iran yesterday met with Mr Velayati, the foreign minister of our country. During this meeting [delegation leader Johnson] Mlambo first noted the situation in the south African Continent, especially South Africa, the

invasions and criminal activities of the racist South African regime. He said: If the racist and minority South African regime falls as a result of the struggle by the people, the United States plans to replace it with another pawn. He praised the struggle of the Iranian nation against the previous puppet regime and the preservation of the revolution and defense of their own country in the imposed war.

Later Foreign Minister Velayati praised the struggle of the resisting South African people against racism and apartheid. He said the president of the Islamic Republic of Iran during his visit to the Frontline States in southern Africa and everywhere else has emphasized the need to support the strugglers in South Africa against the racist regime. Of course the United States and its Western allies are not eager to lose the very rich and fertile land of South Africa. This is why in the future you will have very difficult struggles. We condemn every kind of aggression whether in South Africa and against the brave people of this country or whether by the United States against the Muslim nation of Libya or the aggression of the Iraqi regime against the Islamic Republic of Iran. We support and defend the just struggle of nations against aggression and invasion.

Visits Chemical Warfare Victims

GF240706 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 24 Apr 86

[Text] Members of the five-men delegation of the congress of Africa supporters, who are visiting Iran at the invitation of the Foreign Ministry, yesterday afternoon visited in Martyr Labbafi-Nejad Hospital wounded victims of chemical weapons used in the imposed war. According to IRNA, Mr Mlambo, the head of the congress of Africa supporters, said following his visit with the chemical weapons' victims: To see these wounded was a spiritual blow. We were truly amazed that a regime ruling an Islamic country would use such weapons against another group of Muslims.

He added: During this visit, one important thing we learned was the self-restraint of officials of the Islamic Republic of Iran in the face of these crimes and the fact that they did not retaliate in a similar manner. For us, this is praiseworthy. We praise the patience and self-control of the Islamic Republic's officials, the wounded, and the Islamic warriors of Iran. He said: It is the duty of international organizations to react in a responsible and decisive manner in the face of such actions which are against international agreements.

UN Delegation Reports Iraqi Use of Chemical Warfare

LD241059 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 24 Apr 86

[Text] The Ministry of Foreign Affairs announced: In view of the renewed use of chemical weapons by Iraq's criminal regime on 20 and 21 April 1986, constituting a blatant violation of international laws and regulations, the delegation of the Islamic Republic of Iran at the UN, while informing the UN secretary general of the facts called on him to take the necessary measures in order to dispatch a mission of chemical experts.

Reportage on Combat Operations in War With Iraq**Communique No 2,449***1.D231752 Tehran IRNA in English 1708 GMT 23 Apr 86*

[Text] Tehran, April 23, IRNA — Five Iranian civilians were wounded when invading Iraqi warplanes bombed 'Ketaleh' and 'Noy' villages in suburb of Zivch township, West Azarbayjan Province, at 05:45 GMT hours Wednesday, according to a military communique here Wednesday.

The communique number 2449 of the Joint Staff Command of the Armed forces says that Iraqi warplanes also attacked Oshnoviyeh and Piranshahr both in West Azarbayjan Province at 05:45 and 07:35 hours GMT Wednesday, but were forced to flee by Iranian surface-to-air fire.

The command says that heavy clashes broke out between Iranian Muslim forces and Iraqi troops in Sayyid Khan early wednesday during which Iranian combatants smashed four Iraqi assaults inflicting substantial casualties and losses on them.

At least 30 Iraqi soldiers were killed or wounded, two enemy trucks were destroyed and parts of their positions were set ablaze in the western fronts Tuesday as their positions were hit by Iranian artillery fire, the communique says.

In the northwestern fronts, the communique says, Iranian Muslim combatants exchanged sporadic artillery fire with Iraqi forces killing and or wounding a number of enemy soldiers and demolishing 10 observation posts together with several of their vehicles.

The communique says that Iranian forces in addition to carrying out successful patrol mission in Panjwin and Sayyid Sadiq checked movements of motorized units, engineering vehicles and tanks of Iraqi forces in the said fronts.

Oil installations and refinery of Iraqi township of Banmil were hit and sustained heavy damage by artillery fire of Iranian Muslim forces, reports the joint staff.

At 17:00 hours (13:30 hours GMT) Monday, the communique says, Muslim forces of Iran in a one-hour battle with Iraqi troops in Nahr-Anbar inflicted substantial casualties and damage on them. Elsewhere in Sharhani and Zobeydah in the southern fronts Tuesday heavy artillery duels between Iranian forces and Iraqi troops were reported, then adding that Iranian artillery fire forced an Iraqi patrol to flee in areas overlooking Hoseyniyeh.

Meanwhile, Iraqi long range artillery fire on Abadan in Khuzestan Province damaged some locations in the city.

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

25 APRIL 1986

Libya

The "text" of Colonel Mu'ammarr al-Qadhafi's 23 April interview with Soviet journalists, broadcast by Tripoli television, included a number of statements by the Libyan leader which were not mentioned in the TASS report on the interview. In the recording broadcast by the television, Al-Qadhafi claimed that Libya now deserves to be called "the Great Jamahiriya" because it "protected" the socialist bloc by intercepting and destroying F-111 aircraft which "might have been on their way to Moscow." He described the NATO leaders as "a species between pigs and humans," asserting that their morals are so low that they cannot be human beings. "We have entered a new phase in which a state has officially decided to kill a head of state," he said, adding that there is "no chance of an understanding" with such an enemy. Tripoli television subsequently announced that Al-Qadhafi has sent an "important" message to Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, noting that Syria, Algeria, and the PDRY have been informed of its contents. In another development, the chief of staff of the Libyan Navy met with the commander of the Soviet naval group currently visiting Libya, Voice of Greater Arab Homeland radio noted. A report by the UAE paper *AL ITTIHAD* maintained that Libyan air defenses have been strengthened by "very advanced weapons" following contacts between Al-Qadhafi and Gorbachev, according to Abu Dhabi radio.

Reaction to Arab Summit Proposal

The Syrian foreign minister stated that Syria is ready to attend an Arab summit at any time and place, Radio Monte Carlo reported. The statement was not mentioned by monitored Syrian media. In the Gulf, Moroccan envoy Ahmed Bensouda disclosed that UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan has welcomed Moroccan King Hassan II's proposal for an emergency summit in Fes, Abu Dhabi radio noted. Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz reaffirmed Iraq's view that an Arab summit should discuss other issues, including Iran's "aggression" against Iraq, before debating the U.S. raid on Libya, according to INA.

Syria

Voice of Lebanon radio cited reports of more bomb explosions in Syria, stating that three explosions rocked the coastal town of Tartus the night of 23 April, causing over 20 casualties. The authorities responded by storming houses and arresting 63 people, the radio added. In another development, "informed" sources in Amman cited by Radio Monte Carlo 25 April stated that President Hafiz al-Asad will visit Jordan "within the next 24 hours."

Lebanon

The Lebanese Forces released 33 kidnapped people in a unilateral "goodwill" gesture, Voice of Lebanon radio announced.

Nevertheless, shelling continued across the Muslim-Christian contact lines, according to the radio.

Israel

Prime Minister Shim'on Peres recently renewed his secret contacts with Jordan's King Husayn, *HADASHOT* claimed, adding that Peres may have met with Husayn in France last week.

PLO

PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat ratified a decision by the PLO's Supreme Military Council to expel 'Atallah 'Atallah and strip him of all military ranks in the PLA and Palestinian forces, Radio Monte Carlo reported. 'Atallah condemned the decision in remarks broadcast by the radio, claiming that the Military Council is not authorized to issue such "thoughtless" decisions, which should be issued only by a Fatah General Conference. 'Atallah said his "corrective movement" will continue to adhere to democratic methods to get rid of the "tyranny" practiced by 'Arafat, whose policy "is better suited to the running of a ranch than to leading a revolution."

Sudan

TMC Chairman General 'Abd al-Rahman Siwar al-Dhahab handed over the position of Armed Forces commander to Lieutenant General Taj al-Din 'Abdallah Fadl during a 24 April ceremony in Khartoum, SUNA reported. The new commander told the gathering that the army has been harmed by its involvement in politics and he said it will begin a "new march" after handing power over to the people.

Western Sahara

Commenting on the results of recent preliminary and indirect contacts between Moroccan and Saharan representatives in New York, Polisario official Salem Ould Salek stated at a Paris press conference that the Moroccan stand is aimed at obstructing any positive development, Algiers radio reported. Nevertheless, Paris radio broadcast his assertion that "the de facto recognition of the Polisario Front by Morocco is a reality," adding that Polisario hopes this will lead to "real negotiations" between the two sides.

Afghanistan

At a meeting in Khowst District, the defense minister congratulated the Armed Forces on their "major victories" in the area, though he stressed that these victories are "not enough" as the army has been given "major duties" in "completely crushing the counterrevolutionaries," Kabul radio reported. The DRA authorities also announced widespread promotions within the Armed Forces, according to the radio.

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Kabul Announces Mass Military Promotions

*LD242233 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT
24 Apr 86*

[Text] In accordance with the instruction of Babrak Karmal, PDPA Central Committee general secretary and DRA Revolutionary Council president, and in view of the fact that 16th and 17th plenums of the PDPA Central Committee have been assigned the formidable and honorable duties of the defense of the sovereignty, territorial integrity, and the national independence of Afghanistan against foreign aggression, to our heroic Armed Forces; and in view of the fact that the DRA Armed Forces' officers have been faithfully discharging their duty of struggle against the counterrevolutionary bands with self-sacrifice, courage, and bravery and have inflicted crushing and deadly blows on the rebel bands, and, as earnest sons of the homeland, are accomplishing their historic mission vis-a-vis the homeland and revolution, the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and the Presidium of the Revolutionary Council, have decided in honor of the 8th anniversary of the April Revolution to promote the DRA Armed Forces officers who are due for promotion from the rank of Lieutenant to Lieutenant Colonel and to the rank of colonial rank:

A. The following categories irrespective of headroom vacancies provided it does not exceed the rank of Colonel:

Lecturers and teachers who have a high and vocational education and are engaged in teaching in the military educational institutions;

Medical doctors who have been educated to the level of licence and higher than licence and are working as physicians;

DRA pilots, flight crew, engineers, and flight technicians who are taking practical part in the flight activities.

B. The following categories irrespective of headroom vacancies provided they do not exceed the rank of senior captain:

The commanders, snipers, drivers of tank and combat armored machines, as well as the drivers of other military vehicles;

The officers of combat and operational companies who have taken active part in combat operations more than a year;

Engineers and technicians of weapons and war equipment who are in the disposal of combat units and have taken part in combat operations;

The operational personnel of the Ministry of State Security;

Paramedical staff and other medical personnel who are discharging their duties in the armed forces hospitals and medical centers [words indistinct].

All those officers-mentioned in paragraphs A and B of the article will get their promotion on condition that they have terminated the specified term of service in the present rank in their professional field and have received a favorable report.

The PDPA Central Committee Politburo and the Presidium of the DRA Revolutionary Council have instructed the ministries of Defense, Internal Affairs, and State Security of the DRA to grant the periodic promotion of the above categories of officers in honor of 8th anniversary of the glorious April Revolution.

Defense Minister Visits Khowst, Praises Armed Forces

*LD242024 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT
24 Apr 86*

[Text] A glorious meeting was held yesterday in Khowst major district to appreciate the victories and heroism of the DRA Armed Forces during the military operations. The meeting was attended by Major General Nazar Muhammad, candidate member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and DRA minister of defense; Maj Gen Yasin Sadeqi, secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and head of the Army's political affairs; the assistant to the minister of defense; and a large number of the unit and company generals and commanders.

At the end of this meeting the DRA minister of defense congratulated the courageous personnel of the Armed Forces and the toiling people of Khowst District, on the major victories by the units and companies of the Armed Forces in (Pasa), Katch, and Zhawar regions; and he wished them further victories for the complete defeat of the counterrevolutionaries and the creation of a peaceful atmosphere in the country.

He said that crushing the counterrevolutionaries in Khowst District and the seizure of a major cache of weapons and ammunition — brought into the country by the Pakistani militarists under the umbrella of criminal U.S. imperialism and other imperialist countries — by you, the proud soldiers and courageous officers and NCO's, displays the full strength of our revolutionary army. However, these victories are not enough. The 17th PDPA Central Committee plenum has given major duties to the DRA Army in completely crushing the counterrevolutionaries. I hope you accomplish your future duties with such victories and provide conditions for peaceful work and [words indistinct].

General Abdul Ghafur spoke about the objective of the military operations in the south of Khowst and the resulting victories. A number of the participants at this meeting spoke briefly about the heroism of the personnel of the Armed Forces in Khowst District.

The minister of defense then presented gifts and merit certificates of the courageous personnel of the units and companies who took part in the combat operations in Khowst.

At the end, the participants visited an exhibition of the weapons, ammunition, and materials seized during the combat operation by the courageous men, NCO's, and officers.

Recent Offensives Against Rebels Detailed

BK250414 Hong Kong AFP in English 0127 GMT 25 Apr 86

[By Dimitri Kochko]

[Text] Islamabad, April 25 (AFP) — Soviet and Afghan troops have launched strong offensives against Afghan rebels in the past weeks, rebel sources here said, in tactics that western diplomats see linked to the upcoming seventh round of indirect negotiations in Geneva between Pakistan and Afghanistan.

The Mujahidin guerrillas reported casualties of 125 dead and 220 injured in prolonged fighting with government troops for the key guerrilla base of Zhawar, near Afghanistan's southeastern border with Pakistan.

Guerrilla sources and Pakistani officials said Wednesday that Soviet and Afghan troops had taken the base Sunday and withdrawn Tuesday after suffering heavy casualties in the attack that began on April 4.

Similar offensives have been staged at other points of the Afghan-Pakistani border, as well as along the western border with Iran, which the Mujahidin consider to be "more difficult".

The increased military activity, diplomats here say, is linked to the next round of U.N.-sponsored indirect talks scheduled for May 5 in Geneva between Kabul and Islamabad on a Soviet troop withdrawal from Afghanistan.

U.N. Deputy Secretary-General Diego Cordovez, the middleman in the Pakistani-Afghan talks, has said that the seventh round would be "decisive" to a negotiated solution of the Afghan conflict.

President Mohammed Ziaul Haq of Pakistan said Wednesday that the talks "could be decisive", and said he was optimistic.

Afghan authorities also stress the "decisive" character of the Geneva talks, which Soviet sources said were discussed during a visit this week to Moscow by Afghan Premier 'Ali Keshtmand.

In a communique issued Thursday at the end of his visit, Mr. Keshtmand said he had informed Soviet officials about Afghan efforts for "a quick political settlement" of the Afghan question. Such a settlement, the communique said, depends on "putting a full end to all interventions in Afghanistan, armed or otherwise, together with guarantees that such interventions will not reoccur."

The Soviet Union, whose troops have been in Afghanistan since December 1979, has also said it wants a political solution.

Guerrilla source said the Mujahidin had inflicted heavy casualties on the attacking Soviet-Afghan troops during recent fighting.

Jalalluddin Haqqani, the rebel commander of the Zhawar base who is being treated in Pakistan, denied the camp had been taken, confirming rebel losses, but adding that his troops had downed five helicopters and six planes. Mr. Haqqani also said 282 government and Soviet troops had been killed and 300 captured during the clashes.

Radio Kabul said the Zhawar base had been destroyed and all the Mujahidin wiped out.

In Washington, the State Department said Soviet-Afghan forces had failed to capture the key base, which protects a main rebel supply route. The offensives, guerrilla sources and Kabul reports agree, are aimed at cutting off the Mujahidin from outside support.

Other attacks have been launched since March in the northeastern provinces of Nangarhar and Konarha, in the guerrilla-controlled southern city of Qandahar and in Herat, on Afghanistan's western border with Iran.

Nur Ahmad Nur Returns From GDR Congress

*LD241108 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari/Pashto
1530 GMT 23 Apr 86*

[Text] Nur Ahmad Nur, member of the Politburo and secretary of the PDPA Central Committee, who headed a party delegation visiting Berlin at the invitation of the SED Central Committee to take part in the work of the 11th party congress, returned to Kabul this afternoon. At Kabul Airport he was welcomed by Saleh Mohammad Ziray, member of the Politburo and secretary of the PDPA Central Committee, and deputy head of the party International Relations Department.

After his arrival at Kabul Airport Nur Ahmad Nur highly assessed the work of the congress. In an interview with the BAKHTAR correspondent he said that the congress discussed the prospect of further progress and prosperity of the GDR. He said that the active participation of foreign delegations in the work of the congress was a major and profound sign of international solidarity with the GDR people.

BAKHTAR Comments on Importance of Keshtmand Visit

LD241041 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0445 GMT 24 Apr 86

[Text] Kabul, April 23, BAKHTAR — A political commentator of BAKHTAR writes: The official and friendly visit of Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the DRA to the Soviet Union is very important. The fruit of his visit is the signing of economic and commercial agreements as well as an economic protocol for the period of 1986-1990 with the Soviet side.

Since many years the Soviet Union has extended large disinterested economic assistance to the people of Afghanistan. Forty five percent of our state budget are maintained from the projects constructed by the assistance of the Soviet Union. It is worth to mention that seventy five percent industrial products in the state sector are produced in these projects. The role of the Soviet assistance in education, public health, irrigation systems, hydrology, construction and other spheres of the national economy of our country is constructive. The people of Afghanistan believe that this economic agreement will further consolidate the stand of the DRA against the undeclared war of the US imperialism.

The armed counter-revolutionaries which are exported from across the borders inside the DRA commit arson, murder and other subversive operations against our people and land. The people of Afghanistan resolutely defend their land and honour against these lackeys of imperialism and inflict heavy blows on them by every passing day.

During the years passed, Afghans have well realised the fruits of the Soviet assistance to the DRA.

Gandhi States Position on International Terrorism
BK240755 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0730 GMT
 24 Apr 86

[Text] The prime minister has said India will not bow down to any country however powerful. In an intervention in the Rajya Sabha during the question hour today, Mr Rajiv Gandhi clarified that in the most recent example of U.S. bombing in Libya, India was the first country to come out with this point of view. This stand gives strength to the Nonaligned Movement.

Mr Rajiv Gandhi was reacting to the members concern over terrorism. They felt that the government should take a firm stand against the terrorists operating from the British soil against India.

The prime minister said the existing methods to curb terrorism are enough. We have to develop international means to combat it. However, it will take time. Meanwhile, we have to protect ourselves from within.

Gandhi Addresses Generals on Army's 'New Image'
BK241640 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT
 24 Apr 86

[Text] The prime minister has emphasized the need for projecting a new image of the Indian Army as a technologically advanced fighting force. Our training and service condition should ensure that the ablest young persons chose careers in defense, he said.

Addressing the biennial conference of Army commanders in New Delhi today, Mr Rajiv Gandhi cautioned that security is a matter which never permits us to sit back and relax.

Referring to the international situation, he said the 6-nation initiative for nuclear disarmament has received a good response from the people in most countries, but some big powers have not adopted a helpful attitude.

About Punjab, he was optimistic that it would be possible to isolate the hard-core extremists and deal with them effectively. He welcomed the support extended by all sections at the recent meeting of the National Integration Council for maintaining unity and communal harmony.

Earlier, the chief of the Army staff, General K. Sundarji, apprised the prime minister of the state of the Army.

The 6-day conference is being attended by general officers, commanders in chief of all the five Army commands and principal staff officers at the Army Headquarters.

The ministers of state for defense, Mr Arun Singh, and Mr Sukh Ram; the chief of the naval staff, Admiral Tahlilani; and the chief of the air staff, Air Chief Marshal Lafontaine, were among those who attended the inaugural session.

State Minister on Terrorists' Links 'Across Border'
BK240801 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0730 GMT
 24 Apr 86

[Text] The interrogation of some terrorists in Punjab has revealed information about their links across the border and also about training and other assistance received by them.

This information was given by the minister of state for internal security, Mr Arun Nehru, in the Rajya Sabha today.

He said nothing specific has yet been known to establish the reported supply of Chinese arms by Bangladesh to Tripura National Volunteers.

The security agencies are maintaining strict vigilance along the border to check infiltration of miscreants.

Mr Nehru told the House that about 8,500 persons were apprehended by the Border Security Force while crossing India-Pakistan border in the last 6 months.

The Rajya Sabha was informed today that there is no confirmation of reports appearing in some sections of the press that China has been aiding the cause of Sikh terrorists.

The minister of state for external affairs, Mr K. R. Narayanan, said during question hour that the Chinese Government has also stated that such reports carried by a few foreign newspapers are false and not worth refuting.

Bhagat Gives Reasons for Nonaligned Libya Visit
AU230958 Rome ANSA in English 0834 GMT 23 Apr 86

[Excerpt] (ANSA) Rome, April 22 — A delegation from the non-aligned nations movement flew to New York on Tuesday to continue a good-will mission which brought it to Tripoli on Sunday to extend the movement's "solidarity" to Libyan leader Mu'ammarr al-Qadhafi.

"We met with Al-Qadhafi on Sunday to unveil the decisions taken at the foreign ministers' meeting in New Delhi from April 15 to 19 and to express our friendly solidarity to him and the entire Libyan nation following the U.S. aggression", said Indian foreign minister Bali Ram Bhagat.

THE MUSLIM: Arabs, Muslims Must Support Libya
GF240948 Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English
 19 Apr 86 p 3

[Editorial: "Not by Words Alone"]

[Text] Saudi Arabia's condemnation of the United States action against Libya is indeed heartening. The Americans have been trying hard to exploit the differences within the Arab world and to neutralise the moderate states in order to isolate Al-Qadhdhafi. But Saudi Arabia's forthright position is a rebuff to American diplomacy. Hopefully, it will not remain confined to verbal denunciation of aggression against a brother Arab nation.

The need of the hour is unity among the Arabs. The American 'state terrorism' is a threat to all self-respecting small nations and Al-Qadhdhafi should not be left alone to resist this banditry.

Regardless of internal differences, the Arab states must rise to the occasion and help Libya defend its honour and sovereignty.

The Arab states are not lacking in resources and have been spending a lot on odd causes.

Support to Libya is a worthy cause and warrants whole-hearted political and material support, not only by the Arabs but by the entire Muslim world.

PAKISTAN TIMES Editorial on Nonaligned Meeting
GF241105 Rawalpindi THE PAKISTAN TIMES in English
 20 Apr 86 p 6

[Editorial: "Nonaligned Movement and Afghanistan"]

[Text] Pakistan Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Ali Khan, addressing the plenary session of the Coordinating Bureau of non-aligned countries at New Delhi, has sought a NAM [Non-aligned Movement] consensus once again against Soviet armed intervention in Afghanistan and has surveyed Pakistan's efforts since 1979 to seek a political solution to the threat to regional peace it represents.

As a result of Pakistan's persistent efforts at organising an international climate of opinion on the issue, the UN Secretary General undertook an intermediary role by setting up an indirect dialogue at Geneva which has made steady progress.

Sahabzada Yaqub Ali Khan has informed the NAM bureau at New Delhi of the cooperation that his country has offered to the UN efforts at mediation at Geneva.

At the forthcoming seventh round of talks at Geneva, Pakistan and Afghanistan will thrash out the modalities of the fourth

instrument of the projected agreement relating to the time-table of the Soviet troop withdrawal which will bring the Afghanistan dispute to a close.

The Nonaligned Movement is one of the many international forums which have endorsed the Pakistani position on Afghanistan and thus exercised moral pressure on the Soviet Union in favour of restraint and withdrawal.

The NAM forum is of crucial importance to Pakistan because it includes within its ranks a large number of countries friendly to the Soviet Union.

Sahabzada Yaqub Ali Khan's speech sets out a view that is equidistant between the two superpowers and is critical of the conduct of both from the point of view of the majority of the states in the world seeking a consensus away from superpower involvements.

At the last NAM summit, which was held at New Delhi, the opinion which developed and which was reflected in the NAM declaration, called upon the Soviet Union to withdraw its troops from Afghanistan in order to allow the UN to put into operation the agreed policy of normalisation that would bring sovereignty and peace to the Afghan nation.

Since then a lot of developments have taken place within the Geneva dialogue and outside it. As the Pakistan Foreign Minister pointed out, the proximity talks finalised three-fourths of the text of the agreement under which Pakistan would recognise the Kabul regime, give guarantees of noninterference and collaborate on the return of Afghan refugees to their homes.

Over time, the rigidity of the Soviet stand also appears to have undergone a change and the last congress of the Soviet Communist Party conceded that the crisis in Afghanistan was a bleeding wound.

Soviet leadership has time and again expressed its willingness to bring the imbroglio to a peaceful end and thus solve history's worst refugee problem.

The NAM forum is a bridge between nations that is free of superpower bias and its endorsement is of utmost value. If all the parties involved in the Afghanistan problem are committed to the same final objective, that is, a peaceful conclusion, then let them work sincerely towards it.

If the main stumbling-block is a lack of trust that characterises all East-West questions, then the NAM forum should make a clear statement about it, safeguarding the interests of its two members, Afghanistan and Pakistan, as against the superpower interests and rivalries that prolong conflicts in order to score strategic points against each other.

SRI LANKA

TULF Leaders Meet With India's Bhandari on Proposals
BK231557 Delhi ISI Diplomatic Information Service
in English 1441 GMT 23 Apr 86

[Text] Briefing newsmen on 23 April 1986, the official spokesman said that a three member delegation of TULF led by its secretary general, Amirthalingam, met Romesh Bhandari today to discuss proposals presented to the prime minister last week by Sri Lankan Foreign Minister A.C.S. Hameed regarding ethnic issues in Sri Lanka.

The delegation is presently meeting G. Parthasarathy, chairman, Policy Planning Committee; and A.P. Venkateswaran, foreign secretary. They will be meeting P. Chidambaram, minister of state for personnel and administrative reforms, tomorrow.

Replying to queries he said that no dates have been fixed for Bhandari's visit to Colombo.

Colombo on Talks

BK231203 Colombo International Service in English
1045 GMT 23 Apr 86

[Text] The TULF leadership has been summoned to New Delhi by the Indian Government for talks with senior officials about the latest proposals for settling the Tamil problem. Messrs Amirthalingam, Sivasithamparam and Sampanatham were due to fly to Delhi for talks with the new Indian foreign secretary, Mr Venkateswaran; Mr Parthasarathy, who heads the Policy Planning Commission at the Indian Foreign Office; and Mr Bhandari, who is Prime Minister Gandhi's troubleshooter on the Sri Lanka question.

During the last few days, the international news agencies quoted TULF leader Mr Amirthalingam as saying that he attached little credence to the new proposals. He was later reported to have rejected the proposals outright.

Meetings between the TULF and the Indian Government in Delhi will be followed by the TULF Politburo reviewing the position. This meeting will probably take place in Madras.

Tamil Group Claims Responsibility for Dam Burst
BK241154 Colombo International Service in English
1045 GMT 24 Apr 86

[Text] A report from New Delhi by the PRESS TRUST OF INDIA says that an unknown Sri Lankan Tamil terrorist group has claimed responsibility for the Kantalai reservoir breach which killed several people and left thousands homeless.

The news agency quoted the Eelam Revolutionary Communist Party, ERCP, as saying in a statement issued in the south Indian city of Trivandrum that it had carried out the breach of the Kantalai reservoir to weaken the Sri Lankan economy.

The leader of the group, (T.K. Balasubramaniam), was quoted by PTI as saying that the group had also wanted to divert the attention of the Sri Lankan Army from Tamil-dominated areas in the island. He claimed that the Kantalai disaster had cut off road and rail communications between Colombo and Trincomalee.

PTI said that this was the first time that the Eelam Revolutionary Communist Party had issued a statement. Tamil exiles in India said they were not aware of the group.

8 Killed in Explosion at Petroleum Complex 23 April
BK241136 Colombo International Service in English
1045 GMT 24 Apr 86

[Text] An explosion ripped through the storage complex of the petroleum corporation at Anuradhapura yesterday, setting off a huge fire. The Anuradhapura depot, located close to the railway station, stores large stocks of petroleum and is the central distribution point for the northern and north-central region.

Reports say that two persons alleged to have caused this act of sabotage were arrested at Medawachchiya. They are suspected of being terrorists.

The (Rajarata) service of the Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation said that the explosion had destroyed three [word indistinct] which had arrived from the north. Some machinery and equipment were also destroyed. No damage was caused to the main storage tank. The (Rajarata) service says that eight people were killed as a result of the explosion. Only three of the dead have been identified.

The Army, the Air Force, and police have been deployed to strengthen security in the entire region. The damage caused to the petroleum storage complex has been estimated at 3.5 million rupees.

EROS Group Claims Responsibility
BK241328 Hong Kong AFP in English 1310 GMT 24 Apr 86

[Text] New Delhi, April 24 (AFP) — A Sri Lankan Tamil separatist group has claimed responsibility for Wednesday's explosion in a petrol dump in northern Sri Lanka which killed eight people, the PRESS TRUST OF INDIA News Agency said Thursday.

A spokesman for the militant Eelam Revolutionary Organization (EROS) told PTI in Madras that the sabotage was part of the group's plan to cripple the Sri Lankan economy in retaliation for alleged killings of Tamils by government forces.

V. Balakumar said that the explosion at the underground petrol dump at Anuradhapura caused "heavy damage." The group claimed eight deaths, but reports from Colombo earlier had put the toll at six.

A section of Sri Lanka's 2.5 million Tamils are leading an often violent campaign for autonomy in the country's north and east,

but the militant leadership is based in Madras, capital of India's Tamil Nadu State.

Security Forces Kill 12 Tamil Guerrillas

BK250718 Hong Kong AFP in English 0714 GMT 25 Apr 86

[Text] Colombo, April 25 (AFP) — Sri Lankan security forces killed 12 Tamil separatist guerrillas in clashes in the northeastern district of Trincomalee on Friday, National Security Ministry sources said.

The sources in the ministry said the guerrillas had been slain during a security forces operation.

The sources could not say immediately exactly where the operation had been conducted, or against which of the several guerrilla

groups campaigning for an independent Tamil state in the north and east it had been mounted. The killings brought the official death toll among Tamil guerrillas in two days of fighting to 23.

Seven guerrillas were killed and 51 suspects arrested when the security forces mounted a dawn raid on a hideout of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam on Thursday near the village of Thampalagam.

Two other guerrillas caught unawares committed suicide by swallowing cyanide capsules, the sources said.

In another raid in the eastern district of Amparai, two more guerrillas were killed in an army raid on a hideout, ranking security forces sources said.

Majlis Speaker Warns U.S. on Military Action
LD251030 Tehran IRNA in English 1010 GMT 25 Apr 86

[Text] Tehran, April 25, IRNA — Tehran's prayer leader Friday warned the United States about a possible military attack on the Islamic Republic and said bombing of Iranian cities would only increase popular resistance.

"If our people know they would have to face U.S. (troops), our Armed Forces will increase from several hundred thousand to several million" Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani said. United States officials signalled this week consideration of military action against the Islamic Republic if it was found involved in the so-called terrorist activities.

But Rafsanjani warned "If you do such a thing, which of course you do not dare to, you will know the real meaning of terror in the world." "Do not threaten" he said, "come, reform yourself. Until Israel exists in the region and you support it and until four million Palestinians are homeless, there would be no security." [sentenced as received]

The statements were made as Rafsanjani addressed the Friday prayers in Tehran's university campus where country's policy makers speak about the social state of affairs in the politico-religious gathering every week.

Rafsanjani accused the United States and its allies of conducting direct and indirect acts of terror around the world particularly in Lebanon, Iran, and Nicaragua.

"Everybody knows terrorism is bad. For this reason they (Americans) implement their policies under the cloak of anti-terrorism" he said. "We do not want terror in the world either... but who are the real terrorists?"

Both the United States and France support Iran's terrorist organizations which conduct assassinations and bombings aimed at damaging the government here, he said.

"These gentlemen who kill ordinary people and explode bombs in Iran live in the security of the French and American police. Are they not terrorists?" Rafsanjani asked.

Rafsanjani said recent U.S. moves against the so-called terrorists including Libya would bring no result. "What did you get by your killings in Libya? This will only increase resistance. This will only encourage individuals."

He cited an example to say resistance of Iranian people hardened under Iraqi attacks on cities. "Reagan should send an envoy to the city of Dezful to see how the people there are putting up" he said. Dezful in western Iran has been the target of more than one hundred Iraqi ground-to-ground missiles but its population continue everyday life in a show of resistance.

Rafsanjani regularly conducts the Friday prayers. During the week he heads the Islamic Majlis (parliament). He is known as one of the top policy makers of the country.

On recent press claims that Iran has been trying to illegally obtain U.S.-made weapons, Rafsanjani ridiculed the accusations. "I have never heard of a dealer who could smuggle advanced war planes, as if they were raisins. Where could they find air planes to sell to us?" he asked.

Press reports claimed more than dollars 2 billion worth of U.S.-made weapons, including jet fighters, bombers and tanks, were to have been sold to Iran in an illegal deal.

"If we have the power to bring dollars 2.5 billion of advanced weapons to Iran, you (in Washington) should be better dead" Rafsanjani said.

"We have nothing to hide. When ever we find American weapons, we will buy. Everybody knows Shah's army was American and it needs equipment. In the course of war we obtained some second hand. If there is more we will buy with just prices. We have only ordered our agents not to buy from Israel because it is boycotted" he said.

Press reports which claim Israelis including an Israeli general were involved in the illegal deal is an indication how unpopular the Zionist state is in world public opinion, Rafsanjani said.

The reports "Implicitly condemn relations with them (Israelis). relations with them is ugly. Nations do not want these (relations)" he added.

In response to the statements, Muslim believers chanted "Death to America-death to Russia" slogans shaking their fists in the air. Several units of civil servant para-military volunteers sat among their rows.

According to Islamic tradition the first of the two-part sermon deals with ethics while the second is on domestic and international politics.

Tehran prayer leaders also deliver a short talk in Arabic as the sermon comes to an end. Thousands of Arab-speaking Iraqi prisoners of war in Iran and practicing Muslims across the Middle East hear the sermons on radio.

To mark the birth of Mahdi the twelfth imam of the household of the prophet (May peace be upon him) Rafsanjani discussed Islam's view on the coming of the world's saviour.

Shi'ite Muslims believe Imam Mahdi who lived 11 centuries ago is an extraordinary personality who is still alive and will return one day to fight injustice and create a society based on divine law.

Rafsanjani said Muslims should practice their religious obligations to prepare for the coming. "All Muslims are responsible towards reforming the society... the Muslim nation should unite against injustice" he said.

But he criticised some Muslims for believing that they should keep aloof from social activity because Imam Mahdi was not present among them.

Reagan Interview Shows U.S. 'Helpless, Despondent'
LD241255 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1055 GMT
24 Apr 86

[Station commentary]

[Text] Reports still being published on the results of the U.S. fighter planes' savage attack on Libyan residential areas contain the U.S. new policy to confront freedom-seeking and revolutionary nations.

Although U.S. allies, that is West European countries, initially attempted to portray themselves as more or less against U.S. policy in this matter, the latest EEC foreign ministers' decision to expel Libyan diplomats shows the extent of their adherence to Washington's policies. And, among those countries, the British Government, which has overtaken the other Western allies in its cooperation with Reagan, had an active hand in the attack against Libya.

Some reports detail the wishes of U.S. allies regarding the attack against Libya, despite their remarks. On the other hand, the existing evidence, namely, Reagan's recent interview -- which clearly raises the point of the possibility of U.S. attacks on other Middle-Eastern regions -- shows that the Washington Administration is helpless and despondent in the face of aware, anti-imperialist nations and that it consequently has adopted a new policy of overt military aggression. Undoubtedly, the Reagan administration's recent action against Libya has prepared the groundwork for that administration's future actions.

Meanwhile, the pitiful reactions by Arab countries, except for a number of progressive and anti-imperialist ones, can be viewed as the reason for the strengthening of the U.S. stance. Countries with extensive economic and diplomatic relations with West European countries and the United States do not even limit themselves to verbal condemnation in such circumstances. Instead many reactionary Arab regimes kept very quiet following the recent U.S. invasion of Libya, which proves their endorsement of the U.S. aggression against Libya.

Of course, verbal condemnations are merely for reasons of pretence and made out of fear of public opinion. As George Bush declared after his recent trip to the Persian Gulf region, they [reactionary Arab regimes] are in favor of a U.S. invasion against progressive and anti-U.S. regimes in the region.

It must be asked: Could not the Middle Eastern countries expel Western diplomats to put pressure on the United States and its allies? Could they not ban the purchase of a number of necessary goods from the EEC and the United States? There are many other ways of fighting imperialism and giving it a taste of its own medicine. Refraining from doing so would only encourage the violators of the rights of nations.

Finally, it is necessary to point out that as has been seen the past few days, the nations are prepared to fight the United States and its allies with all their might. No doubt as history has shown, the nations will not wait for decisions by their governments forever; rather, they will choose the right course and pursue it. There is no glory higher than this and it is solely due to the relentless

struggles of the Muslims since the start of this decade, which has led to the defeat of all U.S. plans in the region.

Tehran Arabic Comments on Countering U.S. 'Threats'
GF241851 Tehran International Service in Arabic
1800 GMT 24 Apr 86

[Station commentary]

[Text] The new U.S. threats to the Islamic Republic, which came from the leader of world terrorism, Ronald Reagan, did not surprise anyone. Nor did these threats frighten any one in Islamic Iran.

For more than 6 years, our people have said: Welcome to the U.S. armies if they want to try their luck in the land of Islam. By threatening to strike Tehran, Reagan wanted to confuse cards and use the aggression card in a losing game. His threats brought him to a precipitous abyss. Our people have for years been waiting to teach the aggressors a lesson they will never forget. Reagan is repeating the scenario of the terrorist aggression on Libya, but this time near the coast of the Islamic Republic.

The commander of the naval forces has announced that U.S. destroyers are acting provocatively outside the territorial waters of the Islamic Republic near the Strait of Hormuz. The commander warned that he would issue instructions to hit any U.S. unit trying to enter our territorial waters.

If we link these provocative acts to threats by U.S. President Ronald Reagan, the dimensions and background of U.S. intentions against the Islamic Republic of Iran will become clear to us. At any rate, let the Americans know that the Strait of Hormuz is not the Gulf of Sidra; the Persian Gulf is not the Mediterranean; and any attempt to launch an aggression will turn the region into a flame that will burn U.S. pride and arrogance. If the United States has forgotten the outcome of its blatant aggression against the Islamic Republic on more than one occasion, it should remember the outcome of its aggression against the Muslim people in Libya -- an outcome which the U.S. memory will never forget. The U.S. aggression, whatever its form and destructive force, will ultimately serve the Islamic nation in many ways:

1. It will strengthen solidarity among the Muslim nation in countering the U.S. danger and will give the Muslim people the opportunity to unify their ranks;
2. It will strengthen the Muslim nation's ability to resist aggression of any kind during the course of time. The nation which faces challenges becomes strong and able to achieve victory;
3. It will make the regimes tied to the United States which control parts of the Muslim world collapse under the hammers of the people of the Muslim nation.

The front Washington is going to start against the Muslim nation will expand to all who support the U.S. policy. Hence, threatening to carry out an aggression -- or the possibility of launching an aggression against the Muslim people in Iran --

will be another opportunity for the Muslim nation to unite against the rancorous arrogant crusader onslaught.

Musavi: Alleged Arms Sales Attempt To Mislead Public
LD241638 Tehran IRNA in English 1533 GMT 24 Apr 86

[Text] Tehran, April 24, IRNA — Prime Minister Hoseyn Musavi said here Thursday that *[THE] GLOBE's* arrogant powers have claimed Iran's purchase of U.S.-made arms in order to deviate public opinion from the Islamic Republic's victories at war fronts.

Addressing members of the Islamic Association and managers of the Roads and Transport Ministry who were to leave for fronts, Musavi said the "Enemy hatched this plot to claim that the victory of the Muslim combatant was based on weapons not faith."

"If U.S.-made weapons could bring victory", Musavi said "the previous regime which was fully backed by the U.S. would have remained and Saddam too, could have achieved victory in the early days of his war" against Iran.

Foreign press reports Tuesday claimed a group of people influencing a retired Israeli general were indicted on charge of trying to sell Iran more than \$200 billion worth of U.S.-made weapons.

Prime minister also said Iran's liberation of the port city of Al-Faw foiled a conspiracy to create a war of attrition. But "in order to prevent new moves, the enemy has resorted to new plots namely suspicious political visits of the U.S. agents to the region" he added. Musavi noted that Iranian combatants have proved that their faith is more effective than advanced and modern weapons of the Iraqi enemy.

Khomeyni Receives Leaders on Islamic Festival
LD251259 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 25 Apr 86

[Text] On the happy and auspicious birthday anniversary of the 12th holy imam — May our lives be sacrificed in his cause! — President of the Republic Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, Majlis Speaker Hashemi-Rafsanjani, Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi, and a number of the nation's officials were received in audience today by Imam Khomeyni. They congratulated the imam of the Islamic nation on the occasion of this great Islamic festival.

Khamene'i Stresses Nondependence on Oil Income
LD241712 Tehran IRNA in English 1702 GMT 24 Apr 86

[Text] Tehran, April 24, IRNA — President 'Ali Khamene'i said here Thursday world arrogant powers thought reduction in oil income could deprive the Islamic Republic of Iran from revenue. But, he said, the Islamic Republic enjoys various sources, including agriculture, heavy industries, and mines to get its foreign exchange.

He added that if OPEC member countries had cut their oil sale to industrial countries even for a short time, the plot to bring down oil prices would have been foiled.

Over production of some of oil producing countries and the glut in the world markets have caused oil prices to fall rapidly during the current year.

Khamene'i said arrogant powers are conspiring to weaken the organization of petroleum exporting countries and drive down the oil price.

The president made the statements in a meeting with theologians on the occasion of the birth anniversary of Imam Mahdi (A.S.) the twelfth imam.

Referring to the recent U.S. aggression against Libya, the president said that this country was considered a serious threat to U.S. interests in the region.

The Washington government launched its attack on Libya to prevent the Islamic movement from growing throughout the region, he said.

Khamene'i said solidarity of the progressive Muslim states has dealt severe blows to the U.S., since the victory of the 1979 Islamic revolution of Iran.

Majlis Speaker Meets With Montazeri in Qom
LD241851 Tehran IRNA in English 1827 GMT 24 Apr 86

[Text] Tehran, April 24, IRNA — Majlis speaker Hojjat ol-Islam Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani met Rev. Ayatollah Hoseyn 'Ali Montazeri in Qom Thursday. Different issues of the country were discussed in the meeting.

Further Reportage on Meeting of Governors-General

Interior Minister Announces Resolutions
LD241318 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 24 Apr 86

[Text] Following the end of the seminar of the country's governors-general Mr Mohtashami, interior minister, addressing a press, radio and TV conference, recalled the results and consequences of that seminar.

Describing the tasks of governors-general in the provinces and their tasks in advancing the cause of the Islamic revolution and also reading the behests of Grand Ayatollah Montazeri addressed to the governors-general, he emphasized paying greater attention to society's meek classes and farmers and said: One of the problems of farmers in various parts of the country is the land problem; and for this reason the governors-general participating in this seminar, in a letter humbly addressed to the imam of the Islamic nation, called on the imam to point out the fundamental position of land.

In connection with the Interior Ministry's cooperation in connection with the problem of the imposed war, the interior minister said: This ministry has always placed one-fourth of the powers and capabilities of the municipalities, governorates and district offices at the disposal of the fronts. Governors-general all over the country have expressed their readiness to go to the fronts.

In connection with the problem of reprehensible deeds, Mr Mohtashami also said: The Islamic revolution shall deal with this U.S. political phenomenon and shall not permit the strengthening of such moves. A draft law is being worked out at the joint session of the three powers — the executive, the legislative and judiciary — which, after being approved by the Islamic Consultative Assembly, will enable the executive power to act in accordance with its legal powers.

In conclusion, Mr Mohtashami announced the most important resolutions adopted by the joint session of the council of government and the governors-general as follows:

- Securing the necessary cadres for the deprived regions;
- Specifying the position of the committed forces of the Interior Ministry and affiliated departments;

- Securing the necessary funds for the economic mobilization headquarters throughout the country;

- Approval of the executive regulations of Article 16 of the Budgetary Law for the year 1365 [current Iranian year ending on 20 March 1987];

- Setting up a committee made up of the members of several ministries for the purpose of utilizing Article 3 of the current year's budget and the alternate participation of two governors-general in the Council of Government in order to inform the Council of Ministers of the latest developments in their place of office.

Montazeri Addresses: Islam and Oppressed Seminar

GF240619 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian

0330 GMT 24 Apr 86

[Excerpts] Two days before the birthday anniversary of Imam Mahdi — may God expedite his return — called the international day of the oppressed, participants in the seminar Islam and the Oppressed yesterday met with Grand Ayatollah Montazeri. The seminar is being arranged by the propaganda office of the Qom theological center.

During this meeting Grand Ayatollah Montazeri explained the final goal of human creation, which is to reach a supreme moral standard through communications with the Lord, who is the all-powerful.

He stressed: The main reason for sending prophets to us was to fight against the principles of control and aggression which have been part of human nature since the first day of creation. A group of people therefore thought themselves superior and better than others, because of race and other things, to gain power and wealth, although other people were equal to them when they were created. They became aggressors in the face of God Almighty and established the principles of cruelty and oppression against humans in the history of mankind.

Grand Ayatollah Montazeri then commented on ways to combat oppression: The way to fight the spirit of aggression and oppression and to help the oppressed is not to give, for example, a small amount of financial aid to the downtrodden. The real way to support them is to follow the path of the aggressors from the first day of history when they came and crushed the dignity of humans. The holy Koran says this about the pharaohs who used to oppress the downtrodden. We have to return the oppressed masses their original dignity which they lost because of devilish perseverance and corrupt propaganda launched by the aggressive powers. Because of this the oppressed lost their holy and human characteristics. They have to believe that others are not superior to or different from them except in piety and their communications with God who is the all-powerful.

If we can accomplish this important moral task, the people will be awakened and aware and they will find the way to fight against the corrupt aggressive powers.

Ayatollah Montazeri stressed: In the Iranian Islamic revolution, the main secret recipe of victory was that the leadership of the revolution could give back to the people their original dignity and give them self-confidence and willpower to rely on their own holy character. In all religious and political matters the leadership gave the people awareness. This is the meaning of the "revolution's export" which we talk about. We want to make the masses aware so that they may find their own way to fight the corrupt.

He stressed: What makes us hopeful is that the Islamic revolution in Iran on the one hand has created such awareness and self-confidence among the people of Iran that the world aggressors' propaganda has absolutely no effect. Quite the opposite: Day by day, the people become more and more aware of the revolution's and Islam's purity and they believe in this. On the other hand, this revolution has shaken other peoples and has kindled a hope in them for release from the control of the aggressors by Islamic and Koranic teachings.

One sees in corners of the world, like Lebanon, Palestine, Afghanistan, and other places, how the level of political and religious growth in the people increases day by day and how the Islamic movement is growing and blossoming in the world.

This same growth and the Islamic movement in the world is, God willing, a beginning for the appearance for the Mahdi — may God bless his spirit — and this is the duty of all classes of people to raise the level of our own and others' religious, cultural, political, and military readiness, so that if God is willing, the circumstances would be right for the Mahdi to appear so that he would raise the banner of Islamic justice throughout the world.

Ambassador to Nicaragua Expresses Support

LD241857 Tehran IRNA in English 1701 GMT 24 Apr 86

[Text] Tehran, April 24, IRNA — The Islamic Republic's ambassador to Nicaragua Mohammad Peyrovi met President Daniel Ortega in Managua Thursday to express Iranian support for his country against U.S. imperialism. President Ortega in

return thanked him for the support and expressed hope that he would visit Tehran in a near future.

Majlis Passes Law Defining President's Duties

LD212329 Tehran IRNA in English 1550 GMT 20 Apr 86

[Text] Tehran, April 20, IRNA — The Majlis (Islamic Consultative Assembly) met here Sunday and approved one article of a bill on presidential responsibilities and authority. The article was approved after the second reading. At the session, Majlis deputies spoke for and against the bill and then listened to the president's senior adviser, Mustafa Mir Salim who expressed his views on the bill.

The deputies deleted two articles from the bill but approved one on the basis of which, and according to the 127th Article of the Constitution of the Islamic Republic of Iran, the president should be informed of the agenda and date of the cabinet sessions.

Article Number 127 of the constitutional law of the Islamic Republic of Iran says that the Council of Ministers shall meet presided over by the president if he so deems necessary. The bill also calls on the government to inform the president of any law to be given to the Majlis in order to provide him with opportunity to express his views on it. The deputies also strongly condemned the recent U.S. aggression on Libya. The Majlis will meet again on Tuesday.

Armenian Community Marks 1915 Massacre

LD241649 Tehran IRNA in English 1606 GMT 24 Apr 86

[Text] Tehran, April 24, IRNA — Armenian community in Iran Thursday held ceremonies in its churches and other places of gathering to mark the 24 April 1915 massacre of Armenians.

In central churches of Tehran and Esfahan, chief priests spoke on the tragedy as thousands packed the buildings and the courtyards. Banners in condemnation of the massacre hang on the walls. One banner also called for the removal of NATO military bases from Armenia.

Church officials said a caravan of goods collected by the 100,000 strong religious community is to be sent to the war fronts.

Kurds, Opposition Group Attack Iraqi Army

LD242056 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 24 Apr 86

[Text] A Central News Unit report, citing reliable sources inside Iraqi territory, reads: The Iraqi Kurdish Muslim peshmergas ambushed a motorized column on the Diyana-Dukan highway this week, and destroyed several army vehicles belonging to the Iraqi regime. They succeeded in killing at least 10 of that regime's troops, including an officer named Rashid 'Imadi, and wounded another group.

Another report from Iraq reads: The hezbollahi forces affiliated to the Supreme Assembly of the Islamic Revolution of Iraq

planted a mine on the highway of the (Belizian) military base and destroyed at least one Iraqi army vehicle. During these operations seven Iraqi military men were killed and another group were wounded.

Relief Teams Transfer Wounded Iraqis From Warfronts

LD241954 Tehran IRNA in English 1205 GMT 24 Apr 86

[Text] Ahvaz, April 24, IRNA — Iranian relief teams continue efforts to transfer wounded Iraqi soldiers from the Salt Lake in Iraq's southern Al-Faw Peninsula to safe places behind the front lines. In recent fighting between Iran's Muslim combatants and Iraq's Ba'th forces along the Al-Faw-Umm Qasr road thousands of Iraqi soldiers from brigades 503, 96, 101, 102, 421, 99 have been killed or wounded.

POW Saleh Alvan Salim, from the Second Battalion of Brigade 503, with serious wounds in his legs, said he lay in battle field for 24 hours before help arrived. "Iraqi forces did not dare to come and get me. I lay there until Islamic combatants found me and transferred me behind the fronts" he said. Other POWs said most of the personnel of the 503th brigade were killed, wounded or taken captive and only a few managed to flee.

Islamic forces of Iran launched their "Val-Fajr-8" offensive in Iraqi Al-Faw Peninsula on 9 February and liberated an oil port there.

Journal Reports Iraqi MIA's Buried in Mass Graves

LD242157 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 24 Apr 86

[Text] The Arabic-language publication *AL-'AMAL AL-ISLAMI* reports: North of the (Mamalih) region near Basra, the Iraqi regime has buried large numbers of bodies of Iraqi troops in mass graves while entering their names in the list of those missing.

According to a Central News Unit report *AL-'AMAL AL-ISLAMI* added: More than 2 months after the beginning of the "Val-Fajr-8" operations initiated by Iranian forces, many Iraqi families are still looking for a trace of their children but the Iraqi regime is evading answering their queries by various means. The publication added: The mass graves also contain the bodies of tens of Iraqi soldiers and officers who were returned to Iraq and executed after seeking asylum in Kuwait.

Further on Volunteers, Convoys Departing for Fronts

Units From Esfahan, Qazvin

LD242053 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 24 Apr 86

[Summary] Yesterday afternoon the first Labbayk ya Imam [O imam, I respond to your call] convoy, comprising five specialist combat divisions from the mobilization unit of Esfahan's Islamic Revolution Guards Corps left for the battlefronts of the war against the Zionist enemy.

According to a report from the Central News Unit, the fourth convoy of Karbala' marchers from Qazvin left for the battlefronts yesterday afternoon amid an enthusiastic send off by this town's people. The dispatched forces of Qazvin include the popular volunteer warriors, technical experts, and second time dispatch combatants.

400 Students, Medical Team Depart

LD242057 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0230 GMT 24 Apr 86

[Text] Yesterday, 400 students of Esfahan University left for the battlefronts. According to a report from the Central News Unit, these students joined the convoy named Labbayk ya Imam [O Imam, I respond to your call] and after a parade in streets of the university campus, were seen off by the university's chancellor, lecturers, and other students.

Also yesterday, a medical team, comprising 170 physicians, paramedical staff, relief groups, and medical students of Esfahan University, named the convoy of servants to those who have responded to the imam's call, left the relief treatment headquarters of Esfahan Province for the war zones.

Basij Troops From Shiraz

LD242305 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 24 Apr 86

[Excerpts] In response to decree by the imam of the nation, this afternoon hundreds of Basij personnel from units of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps departed from the Basij centers of Shiraz for the warfronts.

The fourth convoy of Karbala' wayfarers from (Kamiaran) District also left for the warfronts this morning.

Reportage on Combat Operations in War With Iraq

Successes in "Val-Fajr-8" Sector

LD241716 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 24 Apr 86

[Text] According to a report from the Khatam ol-Anbiya' Headquarters, the center for the joint operations of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps and the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, in continuation of the relentless combat of the blasphemy-smashers of Islam's army in the "Val-Fajr-8" operational sector, this morning the anti-tank units of the ground forces of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, in the course of a patrol and reconnaissance operations, in the north of the Al-Faw-Umm Qadr axis, succeeded, in addition to killing tens of the troops of the defeated army of Iraq, in setting on fire two tanks and a large quantity of weapons and arms carried by them, destroying them completely.

40 Iraqis Killed

LD241725 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 24 Apr 86

[Text] Early this morning, five BMP personnel carriers carrying Ba'thist forces along the Basra-Abu al-Khasib axis, came under the fire of the Islamic forces and were destroyed. Around 40 of the Ba'thist forces were killed or injured due to the destruction of the five personnel-carriers. According to IRNA, during the past 24 hours the Islamic forces executed heavy fire on enemy positions near Abu al-Khasib military zone west of the Arvand River destroying two long-range artillery pieces, three heavy machineguns and five enemy trenches. Enemy engineering activity near the military zone of Abu al-Khasib in Iraq, was halted.

Communique No 2,450

LD241842 Tehran IRNA in English 1817 GMT 24 Apr 86

[Text] Tehran, April 24, IRNA — Iran's jet fighters bombed an Iraqi troops concentration center in Shahabi Post at 10:30 GMT Thursday inflicting irreparable damages on it. All planes returned to their bases safely, according to a military communique here Thursday.

The communique number 2450 released by the joint staff command of the armed forces said Iranian navy intercepted and inspected three merchant ships in Hormuz Strait Wednesday. The ships set sail once it was known they carried no Iraqi-bound goods.

Artillery fire of the Iranian combatants in northwestern fronts destroyed Iraqi positions and supply routes and set fire to several military vehicles and one munition depot of theirs, said the command. Iranian forces dispatched patrols to the region to check movement of Iraqi infantry units and that of their personnel carriers. The combatants also used their defensive resources to stand against Iraqi forces in Sayyid Khan, the command said. Anti-aircraft units of the Islamic Republic thwarted most Iraqi air raids on northwestern regions forcing all their planes to flee from Iran's air space, the communique added.

Exchange of artillery and mortar fire between Iranian forces and the Ba'thists continued sporadically in western fronts which had more intensity in Sumar, Halaleh, Anjirah and Nowsud. Some 20 Iraqis were killed and one munition depot, three military carriers and at least seven different bunkers were set ablaze in the region. A unit of Iraqi forces was to infiltrate Iranian positions in Sumar late Wednesday when its advance was repulsed by heavy artillery fire of the Muslim combatants, said the command.

Economic-industrial installations of the Iraqi cities of Banmil and Naft Khaneh were under continuous Iranian long-range artillery fire Wednesday, the communique concluded.

In another development from Khatam ol-Anbiya' Headquarters Muslim forces of the Islamic republic, during patrol in the north of Al-Faw-Umm Qasr axis, killed tens of Iraqi troops and set fire to two tanks and a good amount of munitions.

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

28 APRIL 1986

Libya

Libya is "seriously" considering joining the Warsaw Pact because the U.S. air raids have made neutrality "useless" for a small country, Information Secretary Muhammad Sharaf al-Din al-Fayturi stated in a 27 April interview with AFP. The Soviet Union has invited Libya's foreign liaison secretary to visit Moscow, Tripoli television disclosed earlier. As for Soviet arms supplies, the UAE's *AL-ITTIHAD* reported 26 April that Libya recently received new batteries of "improved" SAM-5's which are more accurate and have greater anti-jamming capability than the SAM-5's supplied to Libya before the U.S. raids, according to WAM. In the Soviet Union, a commentary in the 27 April edition of *SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA* sharply denied Western reports that the USSR knew in advance of the U.S. attack but did nothing to prevent it.

In another development, the Foreign Liaison Bureau informed EEC ambassadors 26 April that Libya has "no option but to reciprocate" the measures adopted by EEC countries, Tripoli television reported. The Europeans were told that Libya sees no justification for the EEC measures and that Libya has "no links" with terrorism. Reporting the arrival in Tripoli of Libyan students expelled from the United Kingdom, Voice of Greater Arab Homeland radio accused the British Government of waging a "racist campaign" against Arabs in general and Libyans in particular.

On Libyan-Egyptian relations, MENA cited a 26 April Cairo *AL-AHRAM* report that Egypt has given a "negative" reply to a Libyan request that Egypt supply Libya with "huge quantities" of weapons. The request was reportedly made by a Libyan officer who visited Egypt 19-23 April. JANA subsequently claimed that high-level Egyptian "personalities" had secretly offered to give Libya weapons but they were "exposed" and subjected to "fierce hostility" from other Egyptian leaders. This is why the Egyptians publicized the topic, JANA contended, adding that they believed this would protect Egypt from U.S. "anger." An Egyptian source cited by MENA described JANA's report as "nonsense" and "ridiculous," asserting that JANA's director has "low standards and a sick mind."

Regarding relations with Tunisia, the UAE's *AL-ITTIHAD* reported 27 April that Libya has asked PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat to mediate between Libya and Tunisia in an attempt to secure the restoration of diplomatic relations, WAM noted. Meanwhile, Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhafi received a number of Palestinian leaders 27 April, Tripoli radio reported.

Arab Summit

The Arab League "officially" announced in Tunis 27 April that a preparatory meeting of Arab foreign ministers will be held in Fes 30 April to be followed by an emergency Arab summit

conference in Fes 3 May, Abu Dhabi radio reported, noting that the preparatory meeting will draw up an agenda to include the U.S. "aggression" against Libya, although an AFP report asserted that there are "already signs of dispute" regarding what issue should top the agenda. According to KUNA, Syria, Libya, Algeria, the PDRY, and Sudan continue "to insist" that the conference should limit itself to discussing the U.S. "aggression" against Libya, while the remainder of Arab League member states favor a discussion encompassing "all aggressions against the Arab nation," including the Iran-Iraq war, and Israel's "repeated aggressions" against the Palestinians, Lebanese, and Syrians.

Syria

Israel wants to intimidate Syria and undermine its morale as a prelude to launching a "military aggression," President Hafiz al-Asad maintained in an interview with Soviet journalists carried by SANA 27 April. However, Syria is not afraid and is "prepared for an invasion," he added. Al-Asad strongly criticized U.S. international and Mideast policies, and he accused the United States of using its influence in Lebanon to prevent the implementation of the Syrian-sponsored tripartite agreement. He predicted, however, that Syria will eventually achieve reconciliation in Lebanon, warning that if the civil war is not ended through Syria's assistance, then "no one" will be able to end the war.

Meanwhile, Radio Monte Carlo reported that Al-Asad "postponed" an expected visit to Jordan, while TANJUG noted that the Syrian leader will visit Yugoslavia 28-30 April.

As for Syria's military capability, the UAE paper *AL-ITTIHAD* reported 26 April that Syria will begin receiving MiG-29 aircraft this summer, according to Abu Dhabi radio. A Syrian tank officer has told Kuwait's *AL-QABAS* that Syrian forces in Lebanon are on a high alert in preparation for a possible Israeli operation, the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon reported, and eyewitnesses have seen Syrian vehicles carrying "long-range missiles" into Lebanon. At a 23 April reception for a visiting Austrian delegation, Defense Minister Mustafa Talas acknowledged that recent "terrorist" acts in northern Syria caused 73 casualties, *WIENER ZEITUNG* reported.

Israel

A British tourist was shot and killed in East Jerusalem 27 April, Jerusalem radio reported, adding that the police "suspect" the attack to be of a "terrorist nature."

In other developments, while acknowledging that "an agreement in principle" was worked out last year, Jerusalem sources nevertheless denied reports that Israel and Poland will exchange diplomatic representatives in May, adding that several details "remain to be clarified," according to Jerusalem radio. The

sources also affirmed that Israel and the Soviet Union are not engaged in contacts regarding the possibility of renewing diplomatic ties.

Further with regard to the two Israelis "detained" in Bermuda on suspicion of conspiring to smuggle U.S. arms to Iran, Jerusalem radio reported that the Israeli Embassy in the Dominican Republic has provided them with "aid," which sources at the Israeli Embassy in Washington asserted was "nothing exceptional."

PLO

PLO Executive Committee Chairman 'Arafat arrived in Cairo 27 April, MENA reported, adding that the PLO chairman will hold "important" talks with Egyptian officials during his stay there.

In other developments, the Soviet ambassador in Baghdad conveyed an "important message" from the Soviet leadership to 'Arafat on recent Israeli military moves "in preparation for new aggression" against the Palestinian people, Baghdad Voice of PLO and Algiers Voice of Palestine reported, adding that the message simultaneously stressed the USSR's "firm support" for the Palestinian people's struggle under the PLO, their "sole and legitimate" representative. Meanwhile, TASS cited reports emanating from the United States that Israel, in "agreement" with the United States, "is preparing" to launch air and land attacks on Palestinian refugee camps in Lebanon in the "near future."

Lebanon

Artillery exchanges across the Muslim-Christian contact lines 25 April killed 5 people and wounded 34 others, according to security sources cited by Voice of Lebanon radio. A hitherto unknown group claimed responsibility for a bomb explosion that damaged a British bank in West Beirut the following day, the radio noted.

Bahrain-Qatar: Territorial Dispute

Gulf shipping sources cited by Bahrain's *GULF DAILY NEWS* reported that both Qatar and Bahrain were making military preparations in the wake of Qatar's 26 April seizure of Fasht al-Dibal, one of the small islands between the two countries whose ownership is disputed. The paper's sources disclosed that Qatari soldiers occupied the island after landing from helicopters, capturing 29 men working for companies which were constructing a Bahraini Coast Guard station on Fasht al-Dibal. The Qataris reportedly fired at a Bahraini tugboat in the area.

The Qatari move followed Doha radio's announcement of an official Qatari declaration that Fasht al-Dibal was an "exclusion" zone as of 1000 GMT 26 April and that "those wanting to go to the area must keep out" until further notice. Doha radio did not, however, mention the Qatari move into the island, which was first announced by Cairo radio. In a subsequent development, Saudi Defense Minister Prince Sultan held talks with the Qatari amir in Doha and with the Bahraini amir in Manama 27 April, according to Doha and Manama radios. Neither radio mentioned the Qatari-Bahraini dispute in connection with his

visit, but diplomatic sources cited by the *GULF DAILY NEWS* said there is little doubt that Saudi Arabia is acting as a mediator between the two countries. An Omani envoy left for Qatar and Bahrain the following day to "get acquainted" with the dispute between the two countries, according to Muscat radio.

Iran-Iraq War

An Iraqi military communique broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio announced that the Iraqi III Army Corps recaptured "considerable parts" of the southern Majnun oilfield in a "resolute lightning attack" 26 April, killing 1,950 Iranian troops and wounding "a large number." The Iranian command, however, stated that Iranian forces repulsed a "futile" Iraqi attack in the area, killing a "large number" of enemy troops, according to Tehran radio. As for the Al-Faw front, where Iran recently claimed successes, an Iraqi communique broadcast by Voice of the Masses asserted that Iraq's VII Army Corps repelled four Iranian attacks 24 April, killing 460 enemy soldiers. The communique also stated that 1,100 Iranians were killed or wounded in the area the night of 19-20 April. A 27 April communique carried by the radio reported that Iraqi troops defeated three more Iranian attacks, though IRNA claimed that Iranian troops killed over 200 Iraqis in an attack that morning. The Iraqi communique also announced that Iraq's V Army Corps scored successes in the northern Sirawan-Mazin mountain area 25-27 April, killing "massive" numbers of enemy troops.

The Iraqi communiqués reported that Iraqi planes raided Khark Island and hit two maritime targets in the Gulf over the weekend. *GULF DAILY NEWS* said an Iranian tanker was set ablaze in an "apparent" Exocet attack south of Bushehr 27 April. For Iran's part, communiqués and reports cited by Tehran radio and IRNA announced Iranian air raids on Zobeydah 25 April and on targets in the Al-Faw sector 26-27 April.

Iranian Warning to United States

In a Friday sermon reported by IRNA, Majlis Speaker 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani warned the United States against taking military action against Iran, asserting that "if you do such a thing, which of course you do not dare to, you will know the real meaning of terror." The Iranian Armed Forces will increase from several hundred thousand to "several million" if Iranians know they have to face a U.S. attack, he contended. The Iranian Navy commander subsequently told a Tehran paper that two U.S. warships are currently patrolling near the Strait of Hormuz, IRNA reported, and he disclosed that a U.S. cargo vessel was among the ships inspected by the Iranian Navy 25 April.

DRA

Karmal Whereabouts — Moscow radio broadcast a statement — although not specifying the date or venue — by PDPA General Secretary Babrak Karmal in which he extolled the achievements of the April Revolution which succeeded "8 years ago." In other anniversary-related reportage, Kabul radio carried a live relay of celebrations at Kabul's festival parade ground 27 April and noted the presence of various government and party officials, although not Karmal's. The sole reference to Karmal was made when the radio reported that some marchers were

carrying photographs of the PDPA leader. A TASS report on the festivities also did not refer to him. In other reportage, Karmal was not mentioned attending a 25 April PDPA Politburo session which heard a report by DRA Council of Ministers Chairman Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand on his recent visit to the USSR.

Mujahidin Fighting — An Afghan rebel leader claimed that Afghan guerrillas launched a counterattack against the joint DRA-Soviet forces' garrison and airbase in Khowst 22 April following the rebels' recapture of Zhawar base, the Tokyo KYODO news agency reported. The rebel leader asserted that the joint forces had "completely failed" in interrupting the guerrillas' supply lines. Nevertheless, DRA party and government leaders, including Keshtmand, on 25 April in Kabul welcomed Army units that had participated in "crushing a major nest" of rebels in Zhawar, according to Kabul radio.

Sudan

General 'Abd al-Rahman Siwar al-Dhahab announced the dissolution of the TMC and the Council of Ministers 26 April during the Constituent Assembly's inaugural session, SUNA reported, although noting that the Assembly entrusted the TMC and the Council of Ministers "to continue their constitutional obligations" until 6 May. Siwar al-Dhahab also emphasized the "need" to convene a national constitutional conference, which he viewed as the "sole solution" to the problems confronting Sudan. In related reportage, SPLM-SPLA sources revealed to the clandestine SPLA Radio that the movement "attaches great impor-

tance" to such a conference, and sees it as an "essential step" toward "peaceful and meaningful" change in Sudan. Meanwhile, an AFP report, citing a press statement issued in Addis Ababa following talks between the SPLM and a delegation of the Al-Ummah National Party, announced the SPLM's refusal to "recognize or participate" in any government formed on the basis of "partial" elections. The SPLM reaffirmed its adherence to the Koka Dam Declaration of 24 March agreed to between the SPLM and the National Alliance for Salvation in which the Al-Ummah Party was represented.

In a related development, a "top-level" official of the National Islamic Front professed that group's support for the National Unity Charter which calls for, among other things, the abolition of the Shari'ah laws, SUNA reported citing *AL-SAHAFAH*.

In action in the south, the SPLA captured the "strategically important" Army garrison in Ler in the Upper Nile 23 April following a month-long siege, and also took control of a town near Torit in Eastern Equatoria, according to SPLA radio reports.

YAR

The shooting of a U.S. Embassy employee 25 April was an "individual" act that does not entail any serious consequences, according to a YAR Interior Ministry spokesman cited by Kuwait radio.

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Reportage on Events Commemorating 8th National Day

Defense Minister Speaks at Parade

LD270646 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto and Dari
0412 GMT 23 Apr 86

[Speech by Major General Nazar Muhammad, defense minister of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, at the Kabul Festival Parade Grounds on the occasion of the eighth anniversary of the April Revolution — live]

[Text] [Words indistinct] leaders, troops, NCO's, officers and g. aerals, noble compatriots of revolutionary Afghanistan, toilers of all nationalities and tribes of our beloved, independent and free country, revolutionary Afghanistan, esteemed foreign guests and friends: On behalf of the PDPA Central Committee, the DRA Revolutionary Council and the Council of Ministers, I congratulate you on this great festival, the eighth anniversary of the April National Democratic Revolution.

We celebrate this historic day this year under the conditions that our party, the PDPA, and [words indistinct] are engaged in a struggle toward the further strengthening and expansion of the social pillars of revolution in the light of the resolutions of the 16th and 17th plenums of the PDPA Central Committee. The PDPA Central Committee, the DRA Revolutionary Council and the DRA Government have concentrated on a new approach in the work of further expanding its social bases. Our people have achieved glittering successes in the socioeconomic development and defense of the home! and in the years of the revolution under the instruction of the PDPA and the selfless assistance from the Soviet Union and other fraternal countries.

The words of peace, friendship and mutual assistance with all the peoples are inscribed on the (?banner) of the April Revolution. A prominent position has been allocated to the work of peace and construction in the DRA's first 5-Year Development Plan, 1986-1991 after the years of the gains of the April Revolution. [sentence as heard]

Our government has devoted its foreign policy efforts toward the political solution of the situations around Afghanistan. The revolutionary changes that have been taking place in the DRA have, however, aroused the wrath of international imperialism, headed by U.S. imperialism. They continue the undeclared war against our people and revolution. The counterrevolutionary bands have recently unleashed new designs with the direct support of U.S. imperialism in order to disrupt the peaceful life of the people in various parts of the country. They particularly violate the sacred Afghan soil in the country's (?southwest) region, which has belonged to the Pashtuns for centuries. The Afghan armed counterrevolutionary bands, as before, create obstacles on the path of peaceful [words indistinct] and cultural construction. They continue their savage ways in our sacred land, shed the blood of the innocent people, and perform inhuman deeds.

Despite all these difficult conditions, the PDPA and the DRA revolutionary state struggle to eliminate the economic and technical backwardness of the country and raise the material and cultural level of the people's lives. In order to implement peaceful

plans, our people need peace. Therefore, one of our most important tasks is to (?continue) struggle against the counterrevolutionary bands and further strengthen and consolidate the Armed Forces. Due to the consistent attention of the PDPA Central Committee and the revolutionary state and the selfless assistance of the great Soviet Union, the Armed Forces have been equipped with very modern combat technology and weapons. The combat capability of all its ranks has been raised. The political knowledge and combat capability of the military officers and their professional combat skills are being advanced. The commanders and political workers have obtained experiences in directing and administering units and companies and successfully organizing their combat activities.

Our heroic people and their proud Armed Forces are inflicting crushing blows on the counterrevolution bands and (?reaction) of the region. We are confident that the enemies of the April Revolution have been and are being crushed. Victory is ours because we are in the right. The strong guarantee for our victories is the support given to the aspirations of the revolution by all true compatriots and the support of the great Soviet Union and other fraternal countries and progressive mankind for the just struggle of the people of Afghanistan.

The traditional friendship between the DRA and the Soviet Union confidently serves the progress of our country and the security of the DRA. The official visit by Comrade Soltan 'Ali Keshmand, member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the Council of Ministers, to the Soviet Union and his warm welcome is another (?example) of our friendship. The visit was very fruitful.

We completely support the peace proposals that have been put forward by Comrade Mikhail Gorbachev. We strongly condemn the U.S. [words indistinct] violation against Libya.

Our heroic Armed Forces, on this auspicious day, assures the PDPA Central Committee, the DRA Revolutionary Council and all freedom-loving people that the Armed Forces will, under the leadership of the PDPA Central Committee, further enhance its revolutionary awareness and combat capability for the very speedy elimination of the counterrevolutionary bands. The Armed Forces, NCO's and officers, are ready to accomplish with loyalty and pride the sacred duty of protecting the interests of the April Revolution and the independence and national sovereignty of the DRA.

May the eighth anniversary of the April Revolution be glorious! Long live the PDPA, the leading force of our society! Long live the toiling people of Afghanistan and their heroic Armed Forces! Forward toward the prosperity of beloved and revolutionary Afghanistan.

Prisoners Pardoned

LD261748 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT
26 Apr 86

[Decree No 20 of the Revolutionary Council Presidium on the pardoning of prisoners on the occasion of the 8th anniversary of the April Revolution, issued in Kabul on 24 April 1986]

[Text] On the occasion of the 8th anniversary of the glorious April Revolution and based on the DRA's humanitarian policy, the Presidium of the Revolutionary Council, in accordance with Article 43, Paragraph 6 of the DRA Basic Statutes, announces and ratifies the following:

Article 1. All those prisoners due to be released in 6 months or less are hereby pardoned and should be released;

Article 2. Those persons subject to Article 1 should be released between 28 April and 28 May 1986;

Article 3. Article 1 does not apply to the following prisoners:

A. Those convicted for committing terrorist and subversive action or for being members of the Jamiyat-e Eslami Afghanistan counterrevolutionary bands or Maoist groups;

B. Those convicts who have had their sentences reduced by earlier decrees.

Article 4. This decree is in force from the date of its ratification and will be published in the Official Gazette.

[Signed] Babrak Karmal, President of the DRA Revolutionary Council Presidium

Leaders Greet Troops Returning From Khowst Fighting

*LD252112 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1600 GMT
25 Apr 86*

[Excerpts] The brave and courageous officers and men of the Armed Forces of our beloved country this morning successfully returned to Kabul after crushing a major nest of counterrevolutionaries in Zhawar region of Khowst Major District. They were warmly welcomed by party and government leaders and by representatives of the working people of Kabul city.

The courageous sons of the homeland have restored peace in Zhawar region of Khowst Major District. This region, which is 3 km from the border of Pakistan, was the largest gathering center for the assistance of international imperialism — headed by U.S. imperialism. It was a region where modern weapons — made in the United States and other imperialist and reactionary countries — were stored for carrying out murder, assassination, and the shedding of blood of the country's women, children, and old people.

The operations of the heroic Armed Forces of the country in this so-called unconquerable region have again displayed to the world public that no reactionary and imperialist force can resist the courage of the Afghans and their invincible determination.

A BAKHTAR correspondent reported that the returning officers and men were welcomed by Soltan 'Ali Keshmand, member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the DRA Council of Ministers; Najibollah, member of the Politburo and secretary of the PDPA Central Committee; Brigadier General Muhammad Rafi, member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and vice chairman of the Council of Ministers; Major General Nazar Muhammad, candidate member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and DRA minister of defense; Zohur Razmjo, candidate member of the Politburo and secretary of Kabul City Party Committee; Mir Saheb Karwal, secretary

of the PDPA Central Committee; Major General Muhammad Yasin Sadeqi, secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and general head of the Army's political affairs; Major General Sayyed Muhammad Gulabzoy, minister of internal affairs; Muhammad Faruq Yaqubi, minister of state security; [words indistinct] delegation of the organs of the Armed Forces; representatives of the workers of Kabul City; several officers of the limited units of the friendly USSR in Afghanistan. They took part in a glorious meeting.

At the beginning of this meeting, after the best wishes of these units and companies were conveyed to the party and government leadership by Brigadier General Abdul Ghafur, first assistant to the chief of staff of the DRA Armed Forces and general administrator of combat operations in Zhawar region, Minister of Defense Major General Nazar Muhammad spoke on behalf of the DRA Armed Forces. He presented best wishes and congratulations to the officers, NCO's and heroic men who had taken part in the combat operations in the major district of Khowst.

In his speech, the minister of defense said: The counterrevolutionaries who are enjoying the support and backing of regional reaction and international imperialism, have suffered a shameful defeat. The defense minister added that the victory in Khowst Major District is a serious warning to all bandits and those who are supporting these bandits. Victory in Khowst Major District proved the military superiority and ability of the commanders, the high military skill and courage of the troops, as well as the high morale of the personnel of our Armed Forces. He added that the source of this victory is the unity of the Army and people, and faithfulness to the aspirations of the April Revolution.

Brigadier General Abdul Ghafur, first assistant to the chief of the general staff of the DRA Armed Forces and general administrator of combat operations at the Khowst front, then presented a report on the combat operations of the Armed Forces in Khowst Major District. The report states: The country's Armed Forces, during the successful combat operations in Khowst, have completely destroyed the enemy in Khowst Major District and seized two major bases, including the Zhawar base which was completely destroyed. As a result of these operations our Armed Forces have seized as booty or partially destroyed a large amount of weapons and ammunition, vehicles and various land and air defense equipment. They have destroyed all defensive installations at the Zhawar base. The report adds that all units and large companies of the Army, Sarandoy, and state security have displayed heroism with high morale and military discipline.

The report continues: We, the personnel of the Armed Forces, assure the PDPA Central Committee, the DRA Government — headed by the beloved leader of the people of Afghanistan, dear and esteemed Comrade Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and president of the DRA Revolutionary Council — that our Armed Forces are ready to safeguard with courage and firmness the gains of the April Revolution.

In conclusion Najibollah, member of the Politburo and secretary of the PDPA Central Committee, conveyed the profound gratitude and countless thanks of the PDPA Central Committee

to the officers and men of the Armed Forces, and said: The [words indistinct] actions and exciting epics of you, the heroes of the Armed Forces, in Khowst revealed that the emancipating Army of our homeland has emerged from the masses of the people and the best and most earnest sons of the homeland have gathered in its ranks.

The recent operations have destroyed and wiped out the nests of the bandits trained by the U.S., British, Chinese, Pakistani, Egyptian, and Israeli instructors, where modern and up-to-date weapons made in the United States and other imperialist and reactionary countries for carrying out murder, assassination, and the shedding of blood of the women, children, and old people, were stored. It was an example of (?seizure) and regular combat in which you have displayed special combat initiative. These operations have revealed your combat skill. This is the cause of appreciation and praise by all the working people of our country. This example must be followed by all organs of the Armed Forces — including the military, Sarandoy, and the Ministry of State Security as a guide for others of their heroic duties.

SPA: Mujahidin Down 12 Fighters in Paktia Province
GF251556 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1530 GMT 25 Apr 86

[Text] London, 25 Apr (SPA) — The Afghan mujahidin have downed 12 fighter planes and helicopters in a recent major battle against the Soviet invading forces and the Afghan agent forces in Paktia Province. Afghan mujahidin sources have stated that 12,000 Soviet-DRA troops participated in the 18-day battle during which the mujahidin killed 319 soldiers. The sources added that the mujahidin have managed to repel the Soviet-DRA forces attack in Bargay, (Lina), (Manay), and (Kunda) regions in the province, and noted the martyrdom of 125 mujahidin and 200 wounded.

KYODO: Guerrilla Leader Claims Zhawar Recaptured
OW280046 Tokyo KYODO in English 0033 GMT 28 Apr 86

[Text] Islamabad, April 27 KYODO — Afghan guerrillas have launched a counterattack on the garrison and airbase at Khowst used by Soviet-Afghan forces for recent attack on resistance Zhawar base in Paktia Province, bordering on Pakistan.

Guerrilla leader Gulbuddin Hikmatyar of the Hezb-e Islami group told newsmen in Peshawar Sunday that Afghan guerrillas recaptured Zhawar after suffering heavy casualties in Soviet-Afghan attacks on their headquarters there.

Hikmatyar said after re-entrenching themselves at Zhawar, the mujahidin guerrillas attacked the Khowst garrison and airbase last Tuesday. However, he gave no details.

The Afghan guerrilla leader said that before vacating the Zhawar base, the Soviet-Afghan force destroyed underground facilities there, and that the mujahidin had lost 115 killed and 250 wounded. He said, however, that guerrillas killed or captured 300 Afghan Government commandoes and downed 13 aircraft during the April 4-20 operation.

Hikmatyar said that the Soviet-Afghan force had completely failed to choke off supplies to the guerrillas, whom he added overran 14 military posts set up during the recent operation.

The 2,600 meter-high Marikandu Peak and adjacent pass which served as an artery for clandestine supplies to the resistance is under mujahidin control, he said.

The Afghan rebel leader said that all the Peshawar-based guerrilla groups had fully cooperated in the fight for Zhawar and had even exchanged weaponry in the Paktia fighting.

Bhagat Returns From Tripoli, New York Meetings
BK270302 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT
 27 Apr 86

[Text] The six-member NAM [Nonaligned Movement] ministerial delegation has conveyed to the UN secretary general that it is the duty of the world body to restore peace in the Mediterranean. It should evolve concrete measures in consultation with Libya, the United States, and other concerned countries. This was stated by the external affairs minister, Mr B.R. Bhagat, on his return to New Delhi late last night from New York. He told All India Radio correspondent that the delegation met the UN secretary general and the president of the Security Council and handed over the communique passed at the NAM ministerial meeting in New Delhi condemning the U.S. bombing on Libya.

Mr Bhagat said the secretary general told him that peace talks had been initiated.

Referring to his meeting with Colonel al-Qadhafi, Mr Bhagat said the Libyan leader expressed his country's deep gratitude to India and the nonaligned nations for their support and sympathy at its hour of crisis.

Scores U.S. Envoy's 'Outburst' in UNSC
BK271609 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT
 27 Apr 86

[Excerpt] The external affairs minister, Mr B.R. Bhagat, has said that the U.S. representative's recent outburst at the Security Council against India and the Nonaligned Movement over Libya is regrettable.

Mr Bhagat, who returned to New Delhi last night from New York, said in an interview to Doordarsan (television) that India stands for peace and the Nonaligned Movement always stood against terrorism and aggression against any country. He said both Britain and the United States tried to isolate the issue of international terrorism from state terrorism.

Mr Bhagat, who headed a high-level nonaligned ministerial delegation to Tripoli, said that unprovoked bombing by the United States has left a (foot) of debris and dead bodies. He described it as a terrific violence unleashed by the United States on Libya.

He added that the Libyan leader, Colonel al-Qadhafi, has already denied Tripoli's involvement in any terrorism.

Sees 'Growing Danger' in Dispute
BK250901 Delhi-ISI Diplomatic Information Service
in English 0830 GMT 25 Apr 86

[Excerpt] External Affairs Minister B.R. Bhagat has said that the Security Council stands paralysed following the triple veto exercised by the United States, Britain, and France on the nonaligned resolution on Libya. He said there is a growing danger of renewed conflagration and a widening of the conflict.

Bhagat was speaking at the council as it met for a resumed session to discuss American armed aggression against Libya.

The request for meeting was made to the president of the council on Wednesday by a non-aligned ministerial delegation headed by Mr Bhagat.

Continuing Reportage on Unrest Incidents in Punjab

2 Killed; 3 Injured
BK280912 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT
 28 Apr 86

[Text] In Punjab two persons were killed and three others injured in shooting incidents today.

The sitting Congress-I MLA [member of Legislative Assembly] from the Beas assembly constituency in Amritsar District, Mr Sant Singh, was shot dead by two motorcycle-borne terrorists at his native village Bithar this morning. Another person was seriously injured in the incident.

In another incident the Hindu Rashtriya Sangathan president, Mr Surinder Kumar Billa, escaped unhurt but his bodyguard, Pradeep Kumar, was killed on the spot and two others injured when about five car-borne terrorists sprayed bullets with sten guns in the crowded (Hall) bazaar in Amritsar this morning.

Meanwhile, the Punjab Congress-I in an emergency meeting at Chandigarh today condemned the killing of party MLA, Mr Sant Singh. A resolution adopted at the meeting presided over by the party chief, Mr Beant Singh, said that the failure to protect the life of political leaders is a reflection on the state government.

The meeting was attended among others by the Pradesh [State] Congress Committee-I president, Mr Beant Singh, and the leader of the Congress-I legislature party, Mr Gurbinder Kaur Brar.

Four Congress-I Leaders Suspended From Party
BK271558 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT
 27 Apr 86

[Text] The former finance minister, Mr Pranab Mukherjee, has been removed from the primary membership of the Congress-I for 6 years.

According to the AICC-I [All India Congress Committee-I] general secretary, Mr G.K. Moopnar, the action against Mr Mukherjee follows (some) acts calculated to what he called lower the prestige of the party.

Mr Moopnar, who announced the decision in New Delhi this evening, said that three other Congress-I leaders have been placed under suspension for indulging in antiparty activities. They are: the former Uttar Pradesh chief minister, Mr Shripati Mishra; the former West Bengal governor, Mr A.P. Sharma; and the former Assam governor, Mr Prakash Mehrotra.

President on Islamic System, Foreign Relations*BK250609 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT
25 Apr 86*

[Text] President General Mohammad Ziaul Haq has said Pakistan is a zone of peace and stability in the whole region and it is the duty of every Pakistani to protect it from all internal and external dangers. He said this while addressing a seminar entitled "How Can Democracy Be Stabilized Under New Circumstances?" in Karachi yesterday evening. He also stressed the need for protecting the ideological frontiers of the country and said we can protect the stability of the country only through Islam.

The president said only an Islamic system of government will be successful in Pakistan. He said every class of the populace should try to make Pakistan a true citadel of Islam. He urged the political parties and political leaders to create a congenial atmosphere for promoting religious education. The president said women should educate and train their children to make them good Muslims and good Pakistanis. The future of Pakistan is in the hands of the younger generation and therefore, the responsibility of protecting our beloved country rests with them. This country is a precious gift of God to us.

The president said every country has to protect its own frontiers and, in view of Pakistan's being an ideological country and its regional importance, it is even more pertinent to Pakistan. He said that as an Islamic country, Pakistan is making continuous efforts to strengthen friendly relations with the countries of the region. Our relations with our great neighboring country China are extremely cordial and friendly. We are also making efforts to improve friendly relations with our other neighboring country, India.

The president assured the organizers of the seminar that the federal and provincial governments will extend every possible assistance to implement the recently set up Institute of Pakistani Affairs.

President: No Restriction on Political Process*BK251611 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT
25 Apr 86*

[Excerpt] President Mohammad Ziaul Haq has said the current political process in the country will strengthen democracy, which the people desire. Speaking to newsmen in Islamabad this afternoon, he said that so long as the law of the land is being observed, there will be no restriction on this political process.

The president emphasized that the representatives of the people are elected at the polls and not through meetings and processions. The present representatives were chosen by the people in the elections last year. In those elections, 63 percent voters voted in the National Assembly elections and 67 percent in the provincial

assembly elections. Hence, these representatives should complete their terms until 1990. Every individual will be allowed to participate in new elections when they are held.

Replying to a question, the president said the current political situation in the country will become normal with the passage of time.

Two Killed During Student Clash in Larkhana 25 Apr*BK260348 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT
26 Apr 86*

[Text] A press note issued by the Larkhana District magistrate says two groups of students — Saint Peter Student Federation and (Jaysind) Students Federation — from (Chanka) medical college and the government degree college in Larkhana exchanged blows at about 2040 on Thursday [24 April]. Later they exchanged fire. However, the firing was halted due to the intervention of the college authorities and the district administration.

Again at noon on Friday these groups exchanged fire resulting in the death of two persons, one a student from (Chanka) medical college. The three injured — two of them students — were hospitalized and their condition is said to be out of danger.

The police have registered a report and have arrested seven persons so far. Three of them are not students but were arrested on the college campus. Security measures have been tightened and the situation is under control.

Afghan Mujahidin Recapture Paktia Positions*BK251533 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT
25 Apr 86*

[Text] Reports from Afghanistan say the mujahidin have recently thwarted Soviet-Karmal forces' attack on their positions in Paktia Province. The attacking forces had to retreat toward Khowst after facing stiff resistance. The mujahidin reportedly inflicted heavy losses on the Soviet-Karmal forces and recaptured the Zhawar, Lazhah, and (Bardoi) areas.

Destroy Helicopters in Balkh*BK270229 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT
27 Apr 86*

[Text] Mujahidin destroyed two helicopters of the Soviet-Karmal troops on the runway of Mazare Sharif airport in Balkh Province of Afghanistan. During the action the headquarters of the 18th Karmal Division was also damaged. Fourteen Karmal troops were killed and many others injured.

BANGLADESH

Indian Guards Cross Border, Shoot Villager 26 Apr
BK280945 Hong Kong AFP in English 0920 GMT 28 Apr 86

[Text] Dhaka, April 28 (AFP) — Indian border guards shot dead a Bangladeshi villager and injured six after crossing into Bangladesh territory, press reports said here Monday. "Miscreants under cover" of India's border security forces (BSF) opened fire on unarmed villagers at Totarpara and Munshiganj villages near Bangladesh's western border with India Saturday after crossing into Bangladesh territory, the reports said. One person died and six were injured in the indiscriminate shooting, the press reports added.

Officials in the Bangladesh town of Kusthia had arranged a meeting between border guards from both sides Monday to try and defuse tensions.

SRI LANKA

Police Investigate Alleged Sabotage in Dam Collapse
BK280713 Hong Kong AFP in English 0656 GMT 28 Apr 86

[Excerpt] Colombo, April 28 (AFP) — Sri Lankan police are investigating the possibility of sabotage involving explosives in the dam burst that killed at least 64 people last week. Police Chief Cyril Herath told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE that President Junius Jayewardene had ordered a probe into the claim that a bag possibly containing explosives was seen near the sluice gate where the Kantalai Dam burst April 20. The water flow swamped several villages, killing at least 64. Another 53 are reported missing. The Criminal Investigation Department (CID) is examining the claim, and informed sources said that such a bag had not been found. It was not stated who had made the claim.

The government also is to ask India to allow Sri Lankan police to question the Eelam Revolutionary Communist Party (ERCP), a previously unknown Tamil separatist group which claimed in a statement in southern India that it had sabotaged the dam, official sources said.

Navy Destroys Boat of India-Trained 'Terrorists'
BK271139 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GTM 27 Apr 86

[Text] The Sri Lankan Navy has destroyed a boat carrying 14 terrorists from India to Sri Lanka. Three of the terrorists who were captured have revealed that they were returning after 10 months of training at TELO [Tamil Eelam Liberation Organization] camp at Salem in Tamil Nadu. The commander of the group, named Rajah, who had been killed by the security forces, had received his training in Uttar Pradesh in India. The fiberglass boat in which the terrorists were traveling was fitted with 355-horse power engine. A large stock of weapons was recovered by the security forces. LANKA PUWATH reports that a Navy patrol has also captured about 18 terrorists on two [words indis-

tinct] of Talaimannar on Thursday [24 April]. The terrorists were taking contraband and a motorcycle to India.

Terrorists have killed a [words indistinct] woman who ran a shop at Trincomalee. Security sources told LANKA PUWATH that a gang of armed terrorists had abducted A. Manomani, aged 34, from her shop last Thursday. The next morning, she was found brutally murdered and tied to the third milepost on the Trincomalee-Nilaveli Road.

Five armed terrorists had robbed nearly 110,000 rupees from the Bank of Ceylon branch at Vavuniya. However, security sources said that the terrorists had dropped half the money while they were fleeing.

Further Details

BK281137 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 28 Apr 86

[Text] A Sri Lankan Navy patrol yesterday killed six terrorists on the high seas within the territorial waters of Sri Lanka. Security sources told LANKA PUWATH that the incident followed an encounter by the Navy and the terrorists on the seas of Point Pedro and Vahettiturai. Packages which were in the boat wrapped in polythene were found floating in the seas and were recovered by Navy personnel. They were found to contain explosives, medicines personally addressed to the LTTE [Liberation Tiger of Tamil Eelam] leader in Jaffna, six G-3 rifles and two mounted machineguns.

State of Emergency Extended by One Month
BK261135 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 26 Apr 86

[Text] The extension of the state of emergency by a further month was approved by a two-third majority in Parliament last evening — 125 members voted in favor of the motion, while the member for Kalawana, Sarath Muttetuwegama, voted against. Members of the Sri Lanka Freedom Party abstained.

Winding up the debate on the motion, Minister of National Security Lalith Athulathmudali said (?objectives of) terrorist organizations aimed at setting up a Marxist government in Sri Lanka, while some other groups are motivated by a mixture of Marxism and communalism. The minister explained that he was only referring to the hardline Marxists and not to the Communist Party in Sri Lanka. He disclosed that 50 individuals, who have had dealings with Marxist-oriented organizations, were recently taken in to custody. Interrogation of the suspects who belonged to a new arm of JVP [Jatiya Vimukti Peramuna] had revealed plans for a major attack next month. However, the minister noted that prompt action by government had preempted their plans.

The leader of the opposition, Anura Bandaranaike, alleged that the government had failed to control the growing acts of terrorism and that effectiveness of the Armed Forces had been reduced. Mr Bandaranaike added that there were signs of a military or political solution to the ethnic problem.

Tehran Arabic Reports Qatari 'Attack' on Island
GF271126 Tehran International Service in Arabic
 1100 GMT 27 Apr 86

[Text] Well-informed sources in the Bahraini capital, Manama, announced today that four helicopters of the Qatari Air Force attacked the small island of Fasht al-Dibal which lies east of Bahrain. According to an AFP report from Manama, the well-informed sources said that the attack resulted in the injury of a number of experts and workers of the Netherlands company that was constructing a military guard post for the Bahraini Army.

Qatar is opposed to Bahraini sovereignty over Fasht al-Dibal and the Hawar Islands. The islands of Fasht al-Dibal are 20 km east of Bahrain and 20-24 km northeast of Qatar.

The well-informed sources said that the attack on the island of Fasht al-Dibal follows the declaration [by Qatar] of the area as an exclusion zone as of 1000 GMT on 26 April. The report adds that Saudi Arabia has made efforts to prevent the deterioration of relations between Bahrain and Qatar, both of which have been engaged in a dispute over the islands for many years.

Qatar Arrests 29

GF271841 Tehran International Service in Arabic
 1730 GMT 27 Apr 86

[Text] Recent reports from south of the Persian Gulf transmitted by certain diplomatic sources in the region reported that Qatar has arrested 29 foreign experts and workers during its attack on Fasht al-Dibal Island and transported them to Qatari territories. It was reported that 26 of the arrested are Filipinos, 2 are British, and 1 Indian. Reuter reported that a Bahraini tugboat was attacked by Qatari Army helicopters at a time when the Qatar and Bahrain Governments have still not commented on this incident.

Khamene'i Sends Kuwaiti Amir Message on U.S. Raid
LD261713 Tehran IRNA in English 1510 GMT 26 Apr 86

[Text] Kuwait, April 26, IRNA — President 'Ali Khamene'i, in a written message to Kuwaiti Amir Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah Saturday, reiterated that Iran and Kuwait should take a joint serious measure against barbaric U.S. aggression against Libya.

The president's message was handed to Kuwaiti Foreign Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Sabah by Iranian charge d'affaires to Kuwait Mohammad Reza Baqeri here Saturday.

Majlis Speaker Addresses Departing Karbala' Marchers
LD271139 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT
 27 Apr 86

[Text] Four divisions of Gilan Province combatants, called the fourth Karbala' marchers, left for the battlefronts after assembling in front of the Majlis and being addressed by Majlis Speaker Hashemi-Rafsanjani, the imam's representative on the

Supreme Defense Council. They were seen off by Majlis deputies while chanting: Death to America! Death to Saddam! War, war until victory!

In his speech, Hashemi-Rafsanjani said: This momentous change which has taken place in our people, enabling them to volunteer for the battlefronts for the sake of God, religion, the revolution, the implementation of the imam's decree and in defense of Islam, is a highly significant phenomenon in history.

Referring to plots hatched by the enemies of Islam to uproot religion and its precepts in Gilan and Mazandaran Provinces and citing the departure of Labbayk ya Imam [We respond to thee, O Imam] convoys from these two provinces, he said: This signifies the depth of Islam and the morality among these pure-hearted and faithful people -- the people who have proved that the genuineness of Islam among the people is far greater than the influence that the enemies of Islam are trying to impose on us. Accurate information available to us shows that the departure of Labbayk ya Imam convoys as well as the fighting forces has created serious instability in our enemies.

The increasing number of desertions from the Iraqi Army as well as the existing instability witnessed in the Iraqi leadership and the Ba'th Party gives us hope of bringing this war to the point where we will be able to overthrow this jingoistic individual [Saddam Husayn] and remove his ominous presence from the region, particularly from the two nations of Iran and Iraq.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani then added: Today, both enemies and friends admit that the misleading propaganda about Iraq's military might is not true; Iraq is unstable. Under such circumstances, your presence at the fronts will have a devastating effect on the enemy. We hope that your preparedness will have an effective influence and, before we resort to further unwanted actions, they will repent and submit to righteousness, thus leaving the two nations of Iran and Iraq alone. Otherwise, we expect you to teach a lesson to the Iraqi Ba'thists which will serve as a historical lesson to other regimes contemplating aggression.

Lebanese Clergy: Renewed U.S. Attack Imminent

LD251925 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT
 25 Apr 86

[Text] On the happy occasion of the anniversary of the Imam of the Age, may God hasten his lofty advent, the Assembly of Lebanese Muslims' Ulama, in a statement expressing congratulations on this great occasion to the Muslims and the meek of the world, called for the expansion of crusading struggles against world arrogance and exploitation.

In this statement, reference also was made to the possibility of renewed attack by the United States on Lebanon. Information received shows that the United States is about to subject Muslim populated quarters in Beirut to aggression, using some pretext. The Assembly of Lebanese Muslims' Ulama has stressed the need for greater unity among Muslims in confronting the expansionist plans of the United States, and considers that the latest actions of Phalangist forces with regard to the establishment of a new airport in East Beirut and the transfer of the assets of the

Central Bank of Lebanon to Christian inhabited areas, is a project formulated by the Phalangists to partition Lebanese territory.

U.S. Statement on Mistreatment of POW's Rejected
LD260758 Tehran IRNA in English 0337 GMT 26 Apr 86

[Text] Tehran, April 26, IRNA — A spokesman for the War Information Headquarters (WIH) here Saturday rejected recent statements of the U.S. State Department alleging Iran of mistreatment of Iraqi POW's in Iran. The spokesman said that Friday's statements of the U.S. State Department, based on an interview with an Iraqi soldier in Washington, showed that other stances of the U.S. were taken in a similar undocumented manner and merely aimed at creating propaganda controversy.

No one under any circumstances could accept such allegations by the U.S. State Department against a revolution, based on accusations made by an Iraqi soldier under the pressure of the Baghdad regime, the WIH spokesman added. Such a hasty statement, the spokesman stressed, was the best proof to the U.S. support for the Iraqi regime in its imposed war against the Islamic Republic of Iran.

However, he said, the visit of a Red Cross delegation to Iran had nothing to do with the U.S. State Department, adding that Iran did not oppose activities of the Red Cross provided that it would prove its impartiality in the Iraqi-imposed war.

The U.S. State Department, following the allegation of an Iraqi soldier, Friday claimed that Iraqi POW's in Iran lived under undesirable conditions and called on Iran to allow a Red Cross team to visit the Iraqi POW camps.

The spokesman said that the U.S. made such "baseless fabrications" at a time when majority of people throughout the world have recognized it as a terrorist and anti-humanistic government.

He stressed that Iraqi POW's in Iran were in the most suitable conditions and similar allegations in the past have proved false after inspection of the camps by U.N. fact-finding mission. [Words indistinct] added, the U.N. team has described conditions of the Iranian POW's in Iraq as deplorable, the spokesman said. He noted that the Islamic Republic of Iran would soon release documents on showing unpleasant conditions of Iranian POW's in Iraq.

Accusations Part of 'Undeclared War'
LD271451 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1104 GMT 27 Apr 86

[Station commentary titled: "The Propaganda Strategems of Washington Directed Against the Islamic Republic of Iran"]

[Excerpts] The terrorist state of the United States, following the poisonous propaganda climate that it has created and directed against the Islamic Republic of Iran, in yet another contemptible move, has claimed that Iraqi POW's in Iran are being mistreated. Washington's new propaganda strategem which has appeared on

the scene at the same time as that country's malicious propaganda waves against the Islamic Republic of Iran is another sign of Reagan's base desires.

The recent allegations by the State Department spokesman can be analyzed and examined from two standpoints: first, from the limited aspect of the POW's conditions and its background; and second, the extensive moves that Reagan's terrorist state is making against the Islamic Republic of Iran. But, in connection with the POW's themselves, the real issue is that the deployment of chemical weapons and the attack on civilians -- such as the downing of a passenger airliner and other war crimes -- has exposed the 'Aflaqi Iraqi regime to world public opinion and turned it into an object of contempt.

The United Nations also, in its researched report on the war regions, stated that Iraq has been using chemical weapons, and this same report became the basis of a statement issued a while ago by the UN Security Council concerning the deployment of chemical weapons. In this statement the Iraqi regime was condemned by name. This removed any doubts or uncertainties that may have existed regarding the war crimes of the Baghdad government, to the point that various governments and world bodies had to condemn the 'Aflaqi Iraqi regime.

In these circumstances, the Iraqi regime, thanks to Washington's cooperation and collaboration, planned a new propaganda move and began to implement it. It sent three released Iraqi POW's -- among hundreds who have up to now been released and returned to Iraq thanks to the Iran's humanitarian measures in freeing disabled POW's -- to the United States, Europe, and Canada, so that through the cooperation of Iraqi Embassies in these countries, and through the collaboration of Radio America [VOA], the BBC, and the radio of the Zionist regime, it could embark on a poisonous propaganda wave against the Islamic Republic of Iran. These three persons who are agents of the 'Aflaqi Iraqi regime, or who are at least under pressure from this regime, on arriving in Washington 3 weeks ago were interviewed by VOA in the Iraqi Embassy there and told clumsy stories about the so-called unpleasant conditions of the Iraqi POW's in Iran. What is interesting is that one of these three men in his interview admitted that the sole aim of their trip was publicity and to draw world attention to what he termed "the inhuman conditions found in the camps."

But the present poisonous propaganda from Iraq and the West against the Islamic Republic of Iran in connection with the so-called bad conditions of the POW's, cannot pose as a credible argument. Other motives may be found beyond these adventures. For instance, they intend to use these strategies to cover the Iraqi crimes, to camouflage them, to create confusion over future crimes of that regime.

But the second reason for the allegations by the State Department spokesman is worth studying. Washington's conspiracies are against the Islamic Republic of Iran. The U.S. Government, with the collaboration of its regional servants, has entered into an undeclared war against the Islamic Republic of Iran. From an economic aspect, the question of oil and the plot to reduce prices are aimed directly against our country. Within the political arena, Washington's provocation in world forums and on a

regional level is undeniable bullying; and from the propaganda point of view, Washington tries to manipulate world public opinion against us through different propaganda channels and to prepare the ground for its potential adventures.

If we were to juxtapose Washington's malicious propaganda with the threats issued by that country against the Islamic Republic of Iran, there would be no doubts at all that Washington has embarked on an undeclared war against the Islamic Republic which, in its later stages, could appear in the form of terrorist acts against the Islamic Republic of Iran. If it believes that it can make our Muslim nation surrender to its own needs and desires, is gravely mistaken. In a potential war with the Islamic Republic of Iran, Washington will experience a devastating defeat.

Naval Commander Warns U.S. Ships in Persian Gulf
LD261330 Tehran IRNA in English 1305 GMT 26 Apr 86

[Text] Tehran, April 26, IRNA — Iran's Navy commander Captain Hoseyn Malekzadegan Saturday announced that U.S. warship *David R. Ray* has joined American missile launcher *Benjamin* in the Persian Gulf. In an interview with daily *ETTE LA'AT* here, Capt Malekzadegan said the two ships have been patrolling near the Strait of Hormuz for the past 48 hours.

Navy commander said Iran had warned the two ships that in case they violate Iranian territorial waters, they will be firmly faced by the Navy. No provocative moves have so far been observed on the part of the U.S. ships, the captain said, and they had been watching Iranian inspection of suspicious vessels. Since last summer Iran has been inspecting ships passing the Persian Gulf and seizing cargo destined for Iraq.

According to Malekzadegan, Iranian Navy inspected two ships on Friday: New Zealand-flag *Mavash Itabuke* and U.S-flag *Ingenious*. The ships set sail once it was known they carried no Iraqi-bound goods. Malekzadegan noted that naval units of the Islamic Republic are stationed in the Persian Gulf and the Oman Sea guarding the territorial waters.

Joint Staff Command Chief Announces New Border Units
LD261232 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 26 Apr 86

[Text] Following the approval of the chairman of the Supreme Defense Council, Mr Khamene'i, and after the remarks of the Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani, the representative of Imam Khomeyni in the Supreme Defense Council which he delivered in yesterday's Friday prayer sermons in Tehran, the chief of the Joint Staff Command of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, in an interview with reporters, declared: In order to increase the combat power of segments of the people and to enable the divisions to deliver new blows to the Ba'thist-Zionist Iraqi regime's army, the project for creating Qa'em [reference to 12th Shi'i Imam Qa'em, the Hidden Imam] border defense units by the regional Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, will soon be implemented.

The spokesman of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps [IRGC] added: In order to carry out this project, all necessary cooperation

will be provided by the War Support Headquarters of the provinces that were set up recently at the request of the eminent Imam Khomeyni and which consist of the imam's representative in the provinces, the Friday prayer leaders of provincial and district centers, governors, officials of the Reconstruction Jihad, and other local officials. These border defense units will make use of and employ honorary and specialized guard forces of organs, government departments, and various guilds.

The chief of the Joint Staff Command and spokesman of the IRGC added: Thanks to divine grace and relying on the assistance of the bountiful name of the holy Imam Mahdi — may God hasten his lofty advent — this project will fulfill the responsibility of defending the borders of the country from any kind of external plot against the Islamic Republic of Iran's system. All brothers who wish to cooperate with the Qa'em border defense units can declare their preparedness by completing the forms of Labbayk ya Imam which specify the conditions pertaining to the volunteer forces serving on and behind the battlefronts, and which will be published in newspapers with a large circulation tomorrow.

In connection with supplies and logistics of the Qa'em border defense units, he stated: The IRGC has always received material and spiritual help from the people in the execution of its assignments, and as regards the implementation of the project for the Qa'em border defense units too, facilities provided by organs, government departments, and different guilds will be used in order to secure the supplies for these forces.

Reportage on Combat Operations in War With Iraq

Iraqi Helicopter Downed

LD251657 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 25 Apr 86

[Text] The Khatam ol-Anbiya' Headquarters, center for the joint operations of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps and the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, has issued a statement which reads that the combatants of Islam, continuing their glorious victories in the "Val-Fajr-8" operational sector, executed heavy fire on enemy positions, destroying a large amount of their equipment and killing a large number of troops of the Ba'thist-Zionist regime of Saddam.

This afternoon one helicopter gunship belonging to the Ba'thist-Zionist Army of Iraq was downed by ground forces' defense unit fire of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps. The helicopter and its crew fell into the waters of Khawr 'Abd Allah.

During the past week, the number of enemy helicopters downed in the "Val-Fajr-8" operational sector totals four, thanks to the self-sacrificing ground forces' defense units of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps.

Communique No 2,451

LD251823 Tehran IRNA in English 1810 GMT 25 Apr 86

[Text] Tehran, April 25, IRNA — Islamic Republic of Iran jet fighters heavily bombarded Iraqi positions and concentration sites

in Zobeydah operational region at 05:50 hours local time (02:20 GMT) Friday [25 April] inflicting considerable damage on enemy. The jet fighters returned safely to their bases, according to a military communique, here Friday.

The Communique Number 2451 of the Joint Staff Command of the Armed Forces says that Muslim ground forces of Iran have achieved their tactical goals in annihilating the aggressor Iraqi forces in Sayyid Khan operational region. In the clashes in the region which began several days ago heavy artillery fire has been exchanged between the warring forces, while enemy positions sustained blows from heavy Iranian air strikes, the communique added. In Haj 'Umran operational region, the Iranian Muslim combatants inflicted substantial casualties and losses on the enemy while heavily shelling Iraqi positions and fortifications, the Joint Staff reports.

In the Western fronts, the communique says, the Iranian Muslim forces checked and repulsed enemy movements, while in Qasr-e Shirin Iraqi troops were forced to retreat with heavy casualties and damage as a result of Iranian fire. The communique further says that an Iraqi patrol unit attempting to infiltrate the defense positions of the Iranian forces in Mehran region was heavily shelled and forced to flee.

Tens of Iraqi troops were killed and wounded Thursday when their positions were hit and set ablaze as a result of Iranian fire, the communique says. It says that the enemy's oil installations in economic centers in Iraqi towships of Banmil and Naft Khaneh were pounded over the past twenty-four hours.

In southern war fronts, Iraqi forces were prevented from resupplying and strengthening their forces in Yebis region and in Nahr-Anbar the Muslim forces of Iran opened fire on Iraqi patrol units forcing them to flee, the communique says.

Meanwhile, the city of Abadan in Khuzestan Province, was subjected to long-range artillery fire of the enemy. Some 20 houses and shops as well as other spots of the city were damaged.

Fighters Bomb Al-Faw-Basra Axis

*GF260500 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT
26 Apr 86*

[Unnumbered communique issued by Khatam ol-Anbiya' Headquarters on 26 April]

[Text] The brave warriors of the Army of Islam, in continuation of their shining victories in the "Val-Fajr-8" theater of operations, are creating epics through their unexplainable resistance.

The high-flying pilots of the Air Force of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran carried out a lightning raid early this morning with fighter-bombers against the positions of the defeated Iraqi Army on the strategic Al-Faw-Basra axis. A large number of enemy positions and equipment were set on fire and destroyed.

As a result of the propaganda and guidance activities of the capable forces of the Army of Islam in areas of contact, yesterday

and last night another group of the aggressor enemy forces in the area came to realize the decadent nature of the Ba'thist-Zionist regime of Saddam and sought refuge in the pure bosom of dear Islam and the Islamic revolution.

Iraqis Near Majnun Island 'Quashed'

*LD261728 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT
26 Apr 86*

[Text] The Khatam ol-Anbiya' Headquarters, center for the joint operations of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps and the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, reports that this morning following the enemy's repeated defeats in "Val-Fajr-8" operational areas, the Iraqi Army embarked on a futile move in the operational area of the southern Majnun Island. But the alertness and intense fire of the combatants of Islam quashed the efforts of the Zionist enemy, and a large number of their soldiers were killed. In addition to the destruction of a considerable quantity of their equipment, three soldiers were captured by the combatants of Islam.

Communique No 2,452

LD261803 Tehran IRNA in English 1742 GMT 26 Apr 86

[Text] Tehran, April 26, IRNA — Two commercial ships were stopped Friday in the Strait of Hormuz by naval units of the Islamic Republic, but were released to continue their voyage when no Iraqi bound goods were discovered aboard them according to a military communique, here Saturday.

In its Communique Number 2452, the Joint Staff Command of the Armed Forces said that Muslim Combatants of Iran defended their positions in the northwestern operational regions where they exchanged artillery fire and heavy weapons fire, over the past 24 hours. It added that a number of Iraqi soldiers were killed in the said region and their infantry and weaponry positions were demolished.

In the western fronts, Iranian Muslim fighters shelled Iraqi positions in Sumar, Halaleh, Mehran and Qasr-e Shirin demolishing several bunkers of theirs well as two munition depots, killing or wounding more than 30 Iraqi soldiers, the communique says.

Iraqi economic centers and industrial installations in Naft Khaneh and [words indistinct] long-range artillery fire of the Iranian Muslim combatants, it added.

The communique says that exchange of fire continued in southern regions, being more intense in Sharhani, Kushk and [words indistinct] the enemy's motorized movements and engineering operations were checked, and casualties and damage inflicted on them.

Iran's gendarmerie forces defended their positions in Qasr-e Shiri: front where they silenced Iraqi fire and severely restricted engineering efforts of the enemy. More than 10 Iraqi troops were killed or wounded, the communique says.

Meanwhile, the city of Abadan, Khuzestan Province, was subjected to long-range artillery fire of the enemy as a result of which twelve houses [words indistinct]

Iraqi Positions in Al-Faw-Umm Qasr Bombed
GF270928 Tehran International Service in Arabic
 0900 GMT 27 Apr 86

[Text] At 0530 [0200 GMT] today the heroes of our Air Force bombed the positions, equipment, and troops of the Ba'thist-Saddamist enemy in the Al-Faw-Umm Qasr sector. This was reported in a statement issued by the Khatam ol-Anbiya' Headquarters, center for the joint operations of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps and the Armed Forces.

The statement added that our courageous eagles inflicted severe losses and damage on the troops and equipment of the enemy. Columns of smoke and fire were seen rising from the enemy's positions for many hours in the "Val-Fajr-8" operations area.

Further Details
LD270950 Tehran IRNA in English 0911 GMT 27 Apr 86

[Text] Tehran, April 27, IRNA — The Iranian fighter-bombers, in a successful operation early Sunday morning, pounded enemy positions and fortification in Al-Faw-Ummi Qasr axis, Al-Faw region, a Khatam ol-Anbiya' headquarters statement said.

In this operation the Islamic Forces of Iran inflicted heavy casualties and damages on Iraqi forces. The area is filled by the smoke of the burning Iraqi munition, added the statement.

The Iranian jet fighters heavily bombed positions, fortifications and concentration centers of Iraqi forces in Al-Faw region at 05:25 and 10:00 (01:55 and 06:30 GMT) Sunday, said the Joint Staff Command of the Armed Forces.

The command said the Iranian fighters after inflicting substantial casualties and losses on the Iraqi forces all returned to their bases safely. Vast parts of enemy positions were set ablaze after the Iranian air raid, the Joint Staff said.

Al-Faw-Al-Bihar Road, Majnun Islands
LD271125 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT
 27 Apr 86

[Report by Central News Unit correspondent in Ahvaz]

[Excerpts] In the name of God, the compassionate the merciful. Once again at 1000 this morning, our brave pilots, flying a number of fighter-bombers, attacked concentrations of Iraqi personnel and material along the Al-Faw-Al-Bihar road, south of Al-Bihar base, and inflicted heavy damage and casualties on material and personnel.

Early this morning today, the anti-blasphemy forces of Islam, mounting a destruction offensive, attacked the moribund enemy

in southern Majnun Island and dealt pounding blows on the Ba'thist Army of Iraq.

In the course of this limited offensive, two enemy boats and the personnel aboard were set ablaze. Also, a number of machine-guns, the personnel manning them, and a number of heavy and light mortar-launchers were destroyed leaving a number of Iraqi dead and injured.

Communique No 2,453
LD271628 Tehran IRNA in English 1551 GMT 27 Apr 86

[Text] Tehran, April 27, IRNA — Iranian fighter bombers heavily pounded positions, fortifications and concentration sites of Iraqi forces in Al-Faw region at 01:55 and 06:30 GMT Sunday inflicting substantial casualties and losses on them and setting fire to vast parts of their positions. The Iranian fighters after successfully carrying out the missions all returned to their bases safely, according to a military communique here Sunday.

The communique said Iranian naval forces inspected six commercial ships and two oil tankers which were sailing under various foreign flags around the Hormuz Strait Saturday but allowed them to continue on their way after being satisfied that they were not carrying any Iraqi-bound goods.

Communique Number 2453 of the Joint Staff Command of the Armed Forces said exchange of artillery fire between Iranian Muslim combatants and Iraqi troops continued in the western fronts, raging somewhat more heavily in the Majnun Islands and Sharhani.

In Nahr-Anbar, Yebis and Faqqeh artillery fire of Muslim forces of Iran halted or disrupted most engineering operations and movements of Iraqi motorized and armoured units.

In fighting which erupted in the Majnun Islands early Friday Iranian Muslim combatants maintained the upper hand and prevented enemy troops from carrying out any operation, said the communique.

In the western fronts, the communique said, Islamic forces of Iran inflicted considerable casualties and damage on Iraqi forces with their crew were demolished.

Muslim forces of Iran checked engineering operations and movements of Iraqi motorized columns in Qasr-e Shirin, Halaleh and Sumar and elsewhere in Sayyid Khan in the northwestern fronts, they pounded Iraqi infantry according to the communique.

In Haj 'Umran, in the northwestern fronts, the communique said, Iranian Muslim troops exchanged heavy artillery fire with Iraqi forces and their anti-aircraft units repulsed Iraqi warplanes which had violated the airspace of the area. Iranian patrol units carried out successful (?missions) and all returned to their bases safely.

Iraqi long range artillery fire on Abadan in Khuzestan Province Friday damaged 20 houses and shops.

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

29 APRIL 1986

Iran-Iraq War

Over 4,000 Iraqis were killed or wounded, 4 Iraqi brigades were "destroyed," and a "great number" of Iraqis were captured in a "three-pronged" Iranian "blitz" offensive on the Al-Faw peninsula late 28 April, according to IRNA reports and a Tehran radio report citing a military statement. The reports said the Iraqis have "established" their positions in the area after advancing more than 2 km on the peninsula, while the Iraqis have been "paralyzed" as a result of the "surprise" attack. In other fighting, an Iranian military commander cited by IRNA claimed that Iran repulsed an Iraqi attack in the southern Majnun Islands area and launched a counteroffensive that inflicted "hundreds" of casualties upon the Iraqis, while an earlier Tehran radio report alleged that a second Iraqi counterattack in that area had also been "defeated."

On the Iraqi side, a communique cited by Voice of the Masses radio asserted that Iraq repulsed an Iranian attack in the east Al-Basra sector, inflicting a "number" of casualties upon the Iraqis.

Libya

Information Secretary Muhammad Sharaf al-Din al-Fayturi indicated that Colonel Mu'ammarr al-Qadhafi may not attend the forthcoming Arab summit conference, asserting in a statement to the UAE's *AL-ITTIHAD* cited by QNA that it is "not important" whether Al-Qadhafi personally attends the meeting. What is important is the convocation of the summit, not who will represent Libya, Al-Fayturi maintained. In another development, JANA announced the arrival in Tripoli of an Iranian delegation headed by Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati and Revolution Guards Corps Minister Mohsen Rafiqdust, citing Velayati's statement that the visit is aimed to demonstrate Iran's support for Libya against the "U.S.-Atlantic aggression." The Libyan agency also denied as a "fabrication" reports that Liberians in Libya have been subjected to "acts against their person." The denial followed Monrovia Radio ELWA's 25 April disclosure that two Liberians in Libya had reported seeing fellow Liberians being tortured to death and executed by firing squad.

In Turkey, Ankara radio announced that a state security court will try five Libyans, three of them in absentia, on charges relating to the attempt to bomb the U.S. officers' club in Ankara.

Bahrain-Qatar Territorial Dispute

Bahrain and Qatar have responded to urgent efforts by Saudi Arabia and other GCC states to contain the conflict over Fasht al-Dibal and have expressed their desire for a rapid settlement, the UAE paper *AL-KHALIJ* reported. In Riyadh, the Saudi cabinet discussed the Gulf situation in light of Saudi Defense Minister Prince Sultan's recent visit to Qatar and Bahrain, the

information minister disclosed in a statement reported by Riyadh radio. The Qatari defense minister visited Riyadh the evening of 28 April, according to the radio. The Kuwaiti foreign minister expressed confidence that Saudi Arabia will be able to settle the Bahraini-Qatari dispute, which he described as a "passing cloud," KUNA reported.

Israel

Talks With Jordan — Prime Minister Shim'on Peres' office has been informed that the Jordanian king "is angry" at recent remarks made by Peres regarding "secret contacts" between the two countries, Jerusalem radio reported. The king's aides, the radio reported, asserted that the Jordanian monarch views Peres' statements as damaging his position prior to the Arab summit, and disclosed his opinion that there is "no substance" to the prime minister's contentions. Radio Monte Carlo cited denials by "informed" Jordanian sources on the existence of such contacts, who maintained that the Israeli "allegations" are aimed at "undermining the improving relations" between Jordan and Syria. Nevertheless, "sources" in Jerusalem acknowledged that "recent" contacts have been held with Jordan, although revealing that they have thus far yielded no "tangible breakthrough," adding that Jordan has moved "very hesitantly," according to *THE JERUSALEM POST*.

French Reactor to Iraq — Jerusalem radio divulged that Peres was informed during his recent talk with his French counterpart that France "might sell" a nuclear reactor to Iraq. Peres, while hypothesizing on the possibility of an Israeli purchase of a French reactor, which would produce energy "only under the appropriate supervision," alleged that an Iraqi reactor would "produce problems, not energy," the radio added.

Syrian Incidents Denied — The IDF spokesman rebutted a report published in the Toronto paper *TORONTO STAR* 27 April on alleged "local firing incidents" on the Golan Heights between Israel and Syria, *HA'ARETZ* reported. The military spokesman declared that there have been "no" such incidents, and that activities in the area are "absolutely routine."

Terrorist Attack Aborted — Jerusalem television reported on an "aborted" attempt by three Syrian Army deserters recruited by Yasir 'Arafat's Fatah organization to "attack" a kibbutz on the Lebanese border, noting that the three were arrested in a Lebanese village 3 weeks ago.

PLO

The issue of secret contacts between Jordan and Israel is a "serious" matter which the PLO will raise at the forthcoming Arab summit or "on the Arab level" if the summit is not held, PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat stated in remarks reported by Radio Monte Carlo following his talks with Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak. The issue was one of the

main topics in 'Arafat's talks with Mubarak, the radio said, and the PLO leader will also raise the matter at the PLO Central Council meeting in Baghdad 29 April. Baghdad Voice of PLO also commented on the issue, asserting that Israel is disseminating reports of such talks in order to "frighten and terrorize" the PLO and to pressure the organization into renouncing its "principled national constants."

As for the PLO's internal problems, Radio Monte Carlo noted that dissident Fatah official 'Atallah Muhammad 'Atallah chaired a "Fatah Supreme Military Council" meeting in Amman which repudiated the recent PLO decision to expel him and which adopted the demands of 'Atallah's "corrective movement." In Cairo, 'Arafat dismissed 'Atallah's movement as "too insignificant to affect the revolutionary march," Radio Monte Carlo noted.

In another development, Sabri al-Banna's Fatah Revolutionary Council claimed responsibility for the 27 April murder of a Briton in Jerusalem, according to AFP, which said the claim was made in a letter received in Beirut.

Syria

In a banquet speech in Belgrade, transmitted by the Yugoslav press agency TANJUG, President Hafiz al-Asad said the U.S. Administration "refuses to go to the root" of the Mideast problems in order to find "just solutions" that will thwart international terrorism. Al-Asad told his Yugoslav hosts that Syria "sharply condemns terrorism," but he stressed the difference between terrorism and national resistance. Reporting on Al-Asad's meeting with his SFRY counterpart, TANJUG said the talks proceeded in an "exceptionally cordial and friendly atmosphere," focusing on bilateral cooperation and topical international issues.

On the internal situation, Syrian security sources cited by the UAE's *AL-ITTIHAD* revealed that the authorities last week arrested two men caught while trying to plant bombs in Damas

cus, according to the *JORDAN TIMES*. The men disclosed information that allowed the authorities to apprehend 10 members of the gang which bombed several targets the previous week. The report claimed that the gang was hiding in an apartment rented by an Israeli intelligence agent, but Israeli sources cited by *THE JERUSALEM POST* denied that the Syrians have arrested Mosad agents.

Egypt

An Interior Ministry statement cited by Cairo radio denounced an unsuccessful attempt by a "few isolated employees" of a textile and spinning company to "incite" co-workers to stage a sit-in at a factory to "pressure" the authorities into dealing with a number of "private" demands. Nevertheless, the statement acknowledged that approximately 250 workers participated in the sit-in, which security forces were "compelled" to end.

Tunisia

President Habib Bourguiba initiated a "partial government reshuffle" including the appointment of a new interior minister, a former Army general, according to a statement by outgoing Interior Minister Mohamed Mzali broadcast by Tunis radio. Mzali, who retains his position as prime minister, announced the appointment of a new finance and economy minister; a new energy and mines minister; and a new industry and trade minister. "Informed" government sources told KUNA that the reason behind the reshuffle is Bourguiba's intention to "deal in a tougher manner" with the opposition, noting that Mzali had "advocated dialogue" and had been against the detention earlier this month of opposition leader Ahmed al-Mestiri.

In other developments, a statement by the minister of higher education and scientific research carried by Tunis radio revealed that Bourguiba approved measures to consolidate the university system in part to "eliminate the chaos" caused by some "extremist" groups in certain university establishments.

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Diplomats in Kabul Discount Karmal Dismissal

BK290840 Hong Kong AFP in English 0831 GMT 29 Apr 86

[Text] Islamabad, April 29 (AFP) — Western diplomats here Tuesday categorically dismissed reports that Afghan President Babrak Karmal had been ousted by his Soviet backers. President Karmal's absence, possibly due to illness, from a parade marking the eighth anniversary of the communist take over on April 27, had sparked the speculation about a dismissal.

In the latest such report, Pakistan's Urdu language daily JANG said Tuesday that Moscow had designated Asadullah Sarwari, a senior member of the ruling People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan as Afghan president after "forcing Karmal to resign".

But diplomats today stressed that "despite uncertainty (about his health) evidently Babrak Karmal has not been summarily dismissed". The diplomats noted that Mr. Karmal, 57, had gone to Moscow on March 30.

Reliable sources, including some East European diplomats here, believe that President Karmal's health problem has prolonged his stay in Moscow. They believed he was suffering from a blood disease rather than a lung ailment as previously reported.

Leadership Thanks USSR Leaders for Greetings

LD270009 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 26 Apr 86

[Message of appreciation from the PDPA Central Committee, the Presidium of the DRA Revolutionary Council, and the DRA Council of Ministers to M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee; A.A. Gromyko, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium; and N.I. Ryzhkov, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, in response to their congratulatory message on the occasion of the 8th anniversary of the April Revolution — announcer-read]

[Text] Dear Comrades: The DRA is celebrating the 8th anniversary of the April Revolution, which began the [words indistinct] fundamental construction of the social and political life of the Afghan people on the basis of the principles of social justice and equality among all nationalities, tribes, and clans.

On behalf of the PDPA Central Committee, the Revolutionary Council and Government of the DRA, and all the people of Afghanistan, we express our appreciation and gratitude to you, to the CPSU Central Committee, and to the friendly Soviet people for your warm congratulations and wishes on this ceremonial occasion.

The decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress on the social and economic development of Soviet society and on the creation of conditions aimed at achieving world peace have received widespread praise among the members of the PDPA and the DRA toilers. The successes and achievements of Soviet Union gladden our hearts, and we are forever united with you in our aims and desires for progress and a brighter future.

Like all peace-loving forces of the world, the people of our country warmly welcomed the program for the elimination of mass-destruction means and [words indistinct] of the comprehensive international security system which the 27th CPSU Congress approved. The proposal for a basic reduction in the [words indistinct] weapons and military forces in Europe which M.S. Gorbachev presented is a demonstration of the Soviet Union's peace-loving policy.

The people of Afghanistan are united with the PDPA in celebrating their national holiday. The party is confidently following the policy of accelerating fundamental improvements in all areas of our country's life and in broadening the social bases of the revolution. This policy is welcomed and supported across the vast strata of the people.

Despite the difficulties resulting from the continued aggression of world imperialism and regional reaction against the DRA, we look to the future with optimism. The friendship and cooperation relations between our peoples, parties, and states are expanding day by day.

The guarantee of our victory in building a new life and in defending the gains of the April Revolution derives from the Soviet Union's disinterested internationalist assistance and all-round support.

The successful results of the recent official visit of the chairman of the DRA Council of Ministers to the Soviet Union are another demonstration of the friendship and fraternity between our countries and our people. The agreements achieved during this visit give us firm confidence in the successful implementation of the plans for the DRA's social and economic improvement and development in the next 5 years and over the long term.

We once again confirm the stability and steadfastness of the DRA's foreign policy, which is based on the principles of the people's friendship, peaceful coexistence, nonalignment, the struggle for peace and security, and a desire to achieve a peaceful settlement of the situation around Afghanistan as soon as possible.

We wish the CPSU Central Committee, the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, the USSR Government, all the Soviet fraternal people, and you, dear comrades, further successes in realizing the decisions and plans of the 27th CPSU Congress and in the struggle to safeguard and consolidate peace on our planet.

Politburo Session Discusses Keshtmand Visit to USSR

LD252342 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 25 Apr 86

[Text] A session of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo was held. The Politburo heard a report by Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand, member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the DRA Council of Ministers, on the results of his official visit to the USSR.

It was pointed out in the Politburo that during the talks which were held between Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand, member of the PDPA

Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the DRA Council of Ministers, and Ryzhkov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, both sides had complete mutual understanding and common views on all the issues discussed, and this matter will play an important and outstanding role in the further consolidation of friendship, good-neighborliness and comprehensive cooperation between the DRA and the USSR.

The Politburo highly assessed the level of Afghan-Soviet cooperation and considered it very important for the expansion and consolidation of long-term cooperation in the economic, social, and cultural fields on the basis of mutual interest. The agreement on important guidelines for economic and trade cooperation and a protocol on economic cooperation for 1986-90 which were signed during the visit will have a great role in carrying out of the planned tasks in the DRA socioeconomic plan for 1986-1990.

On the basis of Afghan demand, the Soviet side expressed its readiness to render assistance to the DRA in implementing the DRA socioeconomic development plan, especially in the fields of construction, expansion, and reconstruction and in (?commissioning) enterprises and projects for extracting and processing natural gas, fuel, solid mine material, chemical and light industries and other sections of industries; and in the construction of electricity stations and transmission lines for electricity; and projects related to agriculture, irrigation, transport, communications, public health, education, and culture; and in the acceptance of Afghan citizens for education in the USSR higher academic establishment.

The Politburo assessed with deep satisfaction the friendly relations, real goodneighborliness, and all-round cooperation between the two countries which is based on the principle of complete equality, mutual respect for the national sovereignty, and territorial integrity, and called the great and pure assistance of the USSR in the defense of DRA national sovereignty and political settlement as being of great political importance.

The Politburo affirmed the viewpoints of the both countries on the important international issues which were reflected in the joint Afghan-Soviet communique, and pointed out that the positions of the DRA and USSR on the assessment of the world's problems and possibilities for improvement were completely in accord.

The DRA expresses its full support for the gradual elimination of nuclear weapons and other means of mass destruction by the end of the present century as proposed by the USSR.

Nikolay Ryzhkov informed the Afghan side about USSR measures aimed at putting into practice the foreign policy aims contained in the statement of 15 January by the general secretary of CPSU Central Committee, in the political report of the CPSU Central Committee to the 27th Party Congress, and in the speech by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee at the 11th SED Congress.

The realization of the nuclear disarmament program which has been proposed by the USSR will make it possible to halt the arms race on the earth and will prevent its expansion into space. The

situation in the world will improve fundamentally, and as a result a considerable amount of money should be allocated for development needs, including for the development of the underdeveloped countries. It was pointed out that the immediate cessation of nuclear tests at the present stage is of prime importance — the realization of which will open the way to free mankind from the nuclear arms. The DRA welcomed the constructive USSR measures aimed at solving the issue of nuclear tests. The unwillingness of the United States to stop testing nuclear weapons is a manifestation of the U.S. Government's intention based on the continuation of its adventurous militarist policy to expand the arms race and acquire military superiority. The DRA and the USSR resolutely condemn this policy.

Both sides expressed their firm belief in the need to strive to unite the efforts of all interested states for the consolidation of peace and safeguarding of security in Asia. Meanwhile, it was pointed out that at the present stage a joint search for a political solution to the conflict situation and on this basis the removal of military confrontation in the various regions of Asia are of particular importance. This will help to stabilize the situation in the region and create the necessary conditions for further measures toward transforming Asia into a region of peace and good-neighborliness.

The DRA and the USSR stressed the urgent need to reach a just and all-round settlement of the situation in the Middle East on the basis of the withdrawal of Israeli troops from all the Arab lands occupied in 1967, to realize the legitimate right of the Palestinian people to self-determination and to establish an independent Palestinian state. Both sides pointed out that an international conference should be convened with the participation of all the involved sides, including the PLO, the sole, legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

Both sides expressed deep concern over the dangerous nature of the continuing war between Iran and Iraq. The consistent position of the DRA and the USSR for an early end to this war and the settlement of the dispute between the two sides by political means and [words indistinct] talks, was emphasized.

The meetings took place in a completely friendly atmosphere. Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand and his delegation had a glorious reception which indicates the friendly feeling of the people of the Soviet Union for the people of Afghanistan. The official and friendly visit of the Afghan delegation was widely reported in the Soviet press.

The PDPA Central Committee highly assessed the activities of the Afghan delegation led by Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand, member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the DRA Council of Ministers, during the official visit to the USSR.

The Politburo thanked the CPSU, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and the Soviet Government for their internationalist assistance to the people of Afghanistan, and asked the DRA Council of Ministers to present specific measures for implementing the agreements. The communique on this friendly visit will be published in the press.

The Politburo also heard a report on the results of the work of the third conference of ulema and religious leaders and assessed the conference as a deep manifestation of the support of the ulema and religious leaders for the humane policy of the PDPA and the DRA state.

It was pointed out in the Politburo that the PDPA and the DRA respect, observe, and support the sacred religion of Islam. The ulema and religious leaders of the country will go forward to expand the social bases of the people's revolutionary sovereignty in the interest of all the country's Muslims. They will also continue the relentless struggle to realize right, truth, and justice.

The Politburo also heard a report by Nur Ahmad Nur, member of the Politburo and secretary of the PDPA Central Committee, on the participation of the DRA delegation in the work of the SED conference and assessed it as an outstanding example of the solidarity and consolidation of relations between the party, people, and governments of the DRA and the GDR. The Politburo confirmed the activities of the Afghan delegation in the work of the conference and meeting and talks.

Also, decisions were made in the Politburo on strengthening the country's defense capability and on several issues related to the DRA foreign and domestic policy.

PDPA's Barialay Receives Belorussian Delegation

*LD271224 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT
26 Apr 86*

[Text] Mahmud Barialay, candidate member of the Politburo and secretary of the PDPA Central Committee, this afternoon met with Aleksandr Aleksandrovich Petrov, deputy chairman of the Council Ministers of Belorussian Republic, who came to Kabul at the head of that republic's delegation. During this meeting talks were held on the subjects of mutual interest. Gol Dad, vice chairman of the DRA Council of Ministers and F.A. Tabeyev, the Soviet ambassador were present.

According to another report, Mahmud Barialay and the Belorussian delegation, deputy chairman of Council of Ministers, and the Soviet ambassador in Kabul, visited the exhibition of the DRA artists union, which opened today.

Pakistani Allegations of Armed Forces Raids Rejected

*LD281929 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT
28 Apr 86*

[Text] The charge d'affaires of the Pakistani Embassy in Kabul was summoned to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs at 1500 today, where the director of the First Political Section told him the following: The Pakistani Government, in order to divert the attention of its people from Pakistan's critical internal situation, alleges that the DRA Armed Forces violated (Baghicha) village near Chaman on 12 April 86, (Mata Tiga) on 15 April; (Mata Tiga) and (Sayd Khel) village in Khurram Agency and [name indistinct] village in Baluchestan on 17 April; (Mata Tiga) region on 19 April, and (Sayd Khel) region on 21 April.

Following a comprehensive investigation, the DRA Government has determined that these claims are groundless and completely false. It stresses that the Pakistani authorities should stop issuing such fabrications which only contribute to a deteriorating border situation.

Foreign Minister Departs for Geneva Talks

*LD281657 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT
28 Apr 86*

[Text] Minister of Foreign Affairs Shah Mohammad Dost left for Switzerland today heading the DRA delegation which will take part in the talks between the DRA and Pakistan that are scheduled to be held in Geneva on 5 May. Trade Minister Mohammad Khan Jalal and vice ministers and advisers in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs were present at Kabul International Airport to see them off.

Najibullah Presents Promotions to Army Officers

*LD262125 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT
26 Apr 86*

[Excerpts] Several officers of the DRA Armed Forces who are being promoted to the rank of general in accordance with the decree of the Revolutionary Council (?Presidium) and in honor of the 8th anniversary of the April Revolution, were presented with the documents of their promotion yesterday morning by Najibullah, Politburo member and secretary of the PDPA Central Committee, in the presence of the head of the Central Committee's Defense and Justice Department and the leadership delegation of the DRA Armed Forces.

Before the distribution of the promotion documents, Najibullah spoke in detail about the political and military situation in the country and explained that the (?honorable duties) of defense of the homeland and the revolution as well as struggle against the counterrevolutionary bands rests with the heroic Armed Forces of our country. He recalled their role in defending government authority, territorial integrity, and national sovereignty of revolutionary Afghanistan. On behalf of the party and the government he congratulated those who are being promoted to the rank of general and presented them their promotion documents.

A BAKHTAR correspondent adds that the promotion documents of Colonel Muhammad Daud, commander of the 20th Division, who was also promoted to the rank of general, were presented to him yesterday afternoon in the Academy of Medical Science of the DRA Armed Forces by Major General Nazar Muhammad, DRA minister of defense, in the presence of Najibullah, Politburo member and secretary of the PDPA Central Committee. On behalf of the PDPA Central Committee and the DRA Government, Najibullah congratulated him and wished him further victories in the accomplishment of the duties allotted him.

Brigadier General Muhammad Daud then expressed his thanks and appreciation for the attention paid to the DRA Armed Forces by the PDPA Central Committee, the DRA Government, and by Babrak Karmal, chairman of the PDPA Central Commit-

tee and president of the DRA Revolutionary Council, the dear leader of (?the people) of Afghanistan. He gave an assurance that he will not spare any effort to implement the resolutions of the party Central Committee's plenums, particularly the 16th and 17th plenums, the 10 theses of the esteemed Babrak Karmal, and the statement of the DRA Revolutionary Council (?as well as) his duties to the April Revolution.

Rebel Band, Weapons Captured in Faryab Province

*LD281819 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT
28 Apr 86*

[Text] Quoting a source in the DRA's security forces, a BAKHTAR correspondent reports that as a result of successful operations carried out in the villages and surroundings of Faryab Province, 46 members of the Nejat-e Milli band including their ringleader Khalefa (?Zaman), were captured.

A recoilless rifle with 6 shells, 2 DShK's, 8 rocket launchers, 5 heavy machineguns, 39 kalashnikovs, 47 assorted weapons, 16 antipersonnel and antitank mines, 20 mine wiring systems, and a large number of antistate propaganda documents and leaflets have been seized from these murderers.

Also, recently a group of 31 people led by Samander, who previously belonged to the criminal Jamiyat band, have joined the state in the region of (?Qaryah-e) in Shirin Taqab District, Faryab Province.

BAKHTAR Reports on Land, Water Reform

LD290622 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0415 GMT 29 Apr 86

[Text] Kabul, April 28, BAKHTAR — Since the beginning of the land and water reforms till the end of 1364 HS (ended on

March 20, 1986) an area of 745,868 hectares of land was distributed to 329,767 landless and small land-holding peasants and poor nomads free of charge.

Distribution of material and technical assistance of the state such as the chemical fertilizers, improved seeds, insecticides and pesticides, agricultural mechanized and veterinary services, agricultural credits to peasants continued.

And for solving disputes arising from the implementation of land and water reforms, as many as 889 village peasant councils were set up in areas where the operational groups of land reforms function.

Accordingly 760,000 peasant families were exempted from the payment of afs 722 million of tax penalty for the years 1357-1359 (HS) and 1.1 million peasants and land owners from the payment of 2,564.8 million afghanis, tax penalty for the years 1360-1364 HS.

This exemption gave an average gain of over afs 23,000 to each peasants.

Democratic land and water reforms is continuing successfully stage by stage in 28 provinces and Khowst Division with 77 operational groups functioning.

Over 430 agricultural cooperatives with 69,000 members, and 212 consumer and handicrafts cooperatives having 73,000 members consisting of peasants, urban and rural craftsmen have been mobilized in the union through these councils.

In the course of 1364 (HS), as many as 28 handicrafts and consumer goods' cooperatives and 76 stores of these cooperatives were newly established and commissioned.

'Big Fire' Breaks Out in Oil Well Near Ahmadabad

BK260851 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT
26 Apr 86

[Text] A big fire broke out this morning in a well of the Oil and Natural Gas Commission [ONGC] near Ahmadabad. Fire brigade personnel and a number of fire tenders have rushed to the well No. GGS-I at (Navgang Naika) on the Ahmadabad-Bareja highway, about 30 km from Ahmadabad. The fire brigade sources received a distress call from the ONGC around 0900 this morning. The fire in the well is still raging. A number of ONGC officials have also rushed to the spot. The cause of the fire is still not known. Details are awaited.

Fire Discovered in Boiler

BK261309 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT
26 Apr 86

[Text] Reports now say that the fire which broke out at the group gathering station of the ONGC [Oil and Natural Gas Commission] near Ahmadabad was in the boiler and the surrounding areas of the place. An early report said that fire broke out in an oil well. According to fire brigade sources, the blaze at the station at (Navgang Naika) was brought under control in half an hour. The cooling operation was undertaken for about an hour. Two fire fighters and five water tankers of the Ahmadabad fire brigade were pressed into service. The cause of the fire is now yet known.

Team To Visit Colombo 29 April for Ethnic Talks

BK251613 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT
25 Apr 86

[Excerpt] The minister of state for administrative reforms, Mr P. Chidambaram, and Government of India's special representative for Sri Lanka, Mr Romesh Bhandari, will be going to Colombo on Tuesday [29 April] for discussions with the Sri Lankan Government on the ethnic issue. This was officially announced in New Delhi today. The visit follows the talks between the Sri Lankan foreign minister, Mr Hameed, and Indian leaders in New Delhi during the Nonaligned Coordinating Bureau meeting last week. Mr S. Balakrishnan, legal adviser to the Ministry of Home Affairs, and Mr R. Mathai in the External Affairs Ministry will accompany the team.

Our Colombo correspondent, Plabon Majumder, understands that the team will avail itself for the opportunity to seek further clarifications on the exact nature of the devolution of powers envisaged in the new Sri Lankan proposals relating to provincial councils. Colombo wants to give these councils powers similar to those given to the union territories in India.

Speaking at a function in New Delhi this evening, Mr Bhandari said the ethnic problem in Sri Lanka is very complicated and one should not have great expectations from the forthcoming visit. India wants that a political solution should be found which removes the grievances of the Tamils and fulfills their aspirations. The package, which has now been presented, may look attractive but they have to examine its contents.

Reportage on State Visit of FRG Chancellor**Arrives in Agra**

BK270925 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT
27 Apr 86

[Text] The West German chancellor, Dr Helmut Kohl, arrived in Agra today on a 4-day state visit to India. He is accompanied by a high-level delegation, including the federal minister for economic cooperation, Dr Juergen Warnke; state secretaries of Foreign Affairs Ministry, and top industrialists and bankers of West Germany. His wife is also accompanying him.

Dr Kohl will arrive in New Delhi tomorrow, and his visit is expected to pave the way for greater economic and industrial collaboration between the two countries. He will have official talks with the prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, and also meet the president, Giani Zail Singh, and the vice president, Mr Venkataraman. Mr Gandhi will host a dinner in his honor tomorrow.

India's adverse balance of trade with West Germany will figure in the talks. The possibility of stepping up West German investments in India, setting up of joint ventures and the problems of terrorism will also be taken up for discussion. During his stay, Dr Kohl will also visit the Hindustan Aeronautics plant at Kanpur and will meet Indian industrialists.

Met in New Delhi by Gandhi

BK280950 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT
28 Apr 86

[Excerpt] The West German chancellor, Dr Helmut Kohl, who is on a 4-day official visit to India, arrived in New Delhi from Agra this morning. Prime Minister Mr Rajiv Gandhi and his cabinet colleagues were among those who received him at the airport. Dr Kohl was given a ceremonial welcome, and contingent from the three services presented a guard of honor to him.

Later, Dr Kohl and his wife called on the president, Giani Zail Singh at Rashtrapati Bhavan [President House]. They were with him for about 1 1/2 an hour. Dr Kohl invited the president to visit West Germany. He will also meet the vice president and will have talks with the prime minister later. Mr Gandhi will host a dinner in honor of Dr Kohl tonight.

Holds Talks With Gandhi

BK281614 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT
28 Apr 86

[Excerpt] The West German chancellor, Dr Helmut Kohl, said during his talks with the prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, in New Delhi today that his country is ready to assist India in its plans for modernization. He referred to the presence of a number of eminent industrialists in his delegation and said there is immense scope for cooperation through private investment. Dr Kohl, now on a 4-day visit to India, arrived in New Delhi from Agra this morning. His talks with Mr Gandhi lasted 2 hours. Both sides expressed the desire to open a new chapter in bilateral

relations. Dr Kohl said West Germany attaches great importance to India. The two leaders exchanged views on the situation in their regions, East-West relations, and nuclear disarmament. Dr Kohl said his country's desire for disarmament is borne out of its location in the heart of Europe.

One of the subjects discussed by the two leaders was terrorism. It was made clear that India is opposed to all forms of terrorism, whether by individuals, groups, or states.

Delegations of the two countries met separately. The Indian side was led by the external affairs minister, Mr B.R. Bhagat, and the West German side by the minister of economic cooperation, Dr Juergen Warnke. It was agreed to raise the level of the joint commission to that of ministers. There were detailed discussions on economic, cultural, and commercial relations. It was decided to step up the cooperation in science and technology.

Feted by Gandhi

*BK290347 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT
29 Apr 86*

[Text] India and West Germany have called for an end to terrorism. Speaking at the dinner hosted in honor of the visiting West German chancellor, Dr Helmut Kohl, the prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, described terrorism as the negation of all human values. He sought West German cooperation in curbing the activities of those who misuse the territory and hospitality of that country to incite terrorism in India. He underscored the urgent need to conclude a suitable extradition treaty between the two countries.

The prime minister said that the serious issue facing humanity is disarmament, especially nuclear disarmament. He said the 6-nation initiative aims at mobilizing and strengthening world public opinion to persuade nuclear weapon powers to halt and reverse the nuclear arms race. He appreciated West Germany's desire to drastically reduce nuclear weapons and to strive for their complete removal.

Speaking about the deteriorating international economic situation, Mr Gandhi urged participants in next week's Tokyo summit of the industrialized nations to think afresh on the need to move from rigid postures to a meaningful engagement of minds. Referring to the economic cooperation between the two countries, the prime minister said India looks forward to continued West German cooperation to move to becoming one of the best producers of industrial goods.

In his reply, Dr Kohl described terrorism as the plague of our time and said it should be pulled out by its roots. Expressing concern at the current international situation, he underlined the need for an arms control process through negotiations. With regard to North-South relations he called for a constant technical dialogue between the two sides.

Describing India as the leading member of the Nonaligned Movement, he said it has shouldered a great responsibility in world politics. He said his country shares India's concern over nuclear disarmament and appreciates its efforts to promote peace

and stability. Welcoming India's economic policies, he said West Germany wants to play an active role in its modernization program.

Reportage on Visit of USSR Deputy Chairman

Arrives 27 Apr

*BK271629 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT
27 Apr 86*

[Text] The Soviet Union is keen on expanding its cooperation with India in different fields and also wants that Indian specialists and workers should take up construction of some civilian projects in the Soviet Union. The first deputy chairman of the Soviet Council of Ministers, Mr Arkhipov, said this on his arrival in New Delhi this evening.

Mr Arkhipov, who is the cochairman of the India-Soviet Joint Commission, is leading a 26-member delegation of his country for a meeting of the commission beginning tomorrow. He was received at airport by the external affairs minister, Mr Bali Ram Bhagat.

Talking to All India Radio correspondent, Mr Arkhipov said the two sides will consider how to expand the range of cooperation in trade, industrial, economic, scientific, and technical fields. Both India and the Soviet Union have certain thoughts about the issues and their efforts will be to give concrete shape to them. He said the commission will review the working of various India-Soviet cooperation projects which were drawn up on a 5-year basis.

Echoing the sentiments of Mr Arkhipov, Mr Bali Ram Bhagat said that India-Soviet cooperation will not only be enlarged but also diversified.

Joint Meeting Begins

*BK280952 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT
28 Apr 86*

[Text] The India-Soviet Joint Commission began its 10th meeting in New Delhi this morning. The external affairs minister, Mr B.R. Bhagat, is leading the Indian side, while the Soviet delegation is led by the first deputy chairman of the Soviet Council of Ministers, Mr Arkhipov. The commission will discuss ways to expand cooperation between the two countries in economic, industrial, scientific, and technical fields.

Addressing the inaugural session, Mr Bhagat said that the meeting is of special significance as the commission is holding its deliberations for the 1st time after signing of the two agreements last year. The commission will work on the modalities of implementing the two agreements. He said the meeting will have new impetus to the growth of bilateral relations and identify new areas for mutually beneficial cooperation. He suggested setting up of special mechanism to promote cooperation in construction of civil and industrial projects, not only in the Soviet Union but also in other countries.

Welcoming the suggestion, Mr Arkhipov said that a special subgroup should be set up for the purpose. He said a detailed program should be worked out for a 5-year period and it should also give a perspective up to the year 2000.

Economic Cooperation To Increase

*BK281617 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT
28 Apr 86*

[Text] India and the Soviet Union have agreed to increase cooperation in the exploration for oil in the Cambay and Kaveri basins. This was one of the decisions taken at the 10th meeting of the Indo-Soviet joint commission in New Delhi today.

The Indian side was led by the external affairs minister, Mr B.R. Bhagat, and the Soviet side by the first deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers, Mr Arkhipov.

The meeting identified specific projects in the coal sector for cooperation. It was decided to undertake a feasibility report for an export-oriented bauxite project in Andhra Pradesh. The meeting was informed that Bharat Heavy Electricals have offered to supply 210 megawatt turbines and generators to the Soviet Union all for use in the third countries. It was agreed that trade between the two countries will be stepped up. It was emphasized that there is immense scope for Indian collaboration in construction works in the Soviet Union.

The commission was informed that preliminary talks have started for setting up three hotels in Uzbekistan with Indian collaboration.

It was also stated that agreement has been reached in principle on holding a festival of India in the Soviet Union and a Soviet festival in India during 1987-88.

Mr Bhagat had separate meeting with Mr Arkhipov. They reviewed Indo-Soviet relations and reiterated the commitment to strengthen cooperation between the two countries.

12 Leaders Resign from Akali Dal Faction

*BK280256 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT
28 Apr 86*

[Text] Twelve leaders of the Akali Dal led by Mr Joginder Singh have resigned from the party. In a joint statement in Amritsar, they said that this is because of what they called the anti-Panthic [religious] role of Mr Joginder Singh. Those who have resigned include the party advisory committee member, Mr Toga Singh, and the Bhatinda District unit general secretary, Mr Baljit Singh.

New Policy Advisory Committee Established

*BK261509 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT
26 Apr 86*

[Text] A high-powered Policy Advisory Committee has been set up at the center with Mr G. Parthasarathy as chairman. It will replace the Policy Planning Committee of the Ministry of External Affairs.

The new committee will provide an analytical background to India's world views and assess major developments to ensure that the country's responses are purposeful and within the framework of an integrated national policy. It will make periodic assessment of potentially critical situation so that the policy-making process is able to anticipate problems. The chairman of the committee will be associated with the framing of current policies. He will perform such other functions as may be assigned to him by the prime minister from time to time.

Apart from Mr Parthasarathy who will continue to have cabinet rank, the committee consists of the minister of state for external affairs, the minister of state for internal security, the minister of state for defense research and development, a cabinet secretary, Prof Sukhomoy Chakraborty, Mr K. Subrahmaniam, Mr G. C. Saxena, and Mr A. K. Damodaran. In addition, there will be special invitees depending on the topics being discussed.

Khamene'i Denies U.S. Arms Smuggling Allegations*LD281143 Tehran IRNA in English 1112 GMT 28 Apr 86*

[Text] Zahedan, Baluchestan va Sistan Prov., April 28, IRNA — President 'Ali Khamene'i here Monday refuted the recent allegations of Western media that the Islamic Republic of Iran has been smuggling in arms from the U.S.

President Khamene'i who arrived here Monday morning for a tour of the province, further told reporters that once in a while Western media in order to fill their space, print such accusations against Iran. "People of the world are aware that we have various sources to meet our arms need, the most important of which is the innovation and creativity of the Iranian craftsmen." Another source of our weapons, he told reporters, is seizing munition from the enemy.

Most portions of the arms seized are used by the Islamic Forces of Iran against the Iraqi aggressors. "Of course, we get arms from the world market," he added. A country which is engaged in a war, he told reporters, must obtain the arms it needs to repel the enemy and Iran purchases them from those countries which it considers suitable.

However, he stressed, allegations such as arms purchase from Israel and so on, are totally unfounded and those behind such claims know well that no one in the world would take them seriously.

On the recent statements of the U.S. President, to the effect that if necessary his government will attack Iran, President Khamene'i said that such threats were empty. Our nation, he added, are not affected by such threats. When the Iranian nation is engaged in a direct confrontation with the enemy, it would deal a heavy and crushing blow and the U.S. is no exception.

The president is accompanied by his adviser Mostafa Mir-Salim, Minister of Construction Jihad Bizhan Namdar Zanganeh, gendarmerie commander Colonel Sohrabi and several other officials.

The president told IRNA at the airport that his trip aimed at meeting people of the province which is one of the deprived areas of the country, neglected under the former regime. He further added that in his talks with local officials, he will discuss problems of the province.

Jordanian General on Military Aid to Gulf States*LD281630 Tehran IRNA in English 1358 GMT 28 Apr 86*

[Text] London, April 28, IRNA — A senior Jordanian military official has said that in case the Iraqi war against Iran spilled into Kuwait and other southern Persian Gulf states, any request for assistance by them would be "considered sympathetically."

General Sharif Zayd ibn Shakir, the Jordanian Army's commander-in-chief, also said in an interview with the London-based *JANE'S DEFENCE WEEKLY* (April 26) that Amman was always prepared to assist "brother" Arab states which sought assistance but would "not act as anyone's policeman in this area."

The total manpower of the Jordanian Armed Forces does not exceed 77,000 men. In its recent combat experience, Jordanian units sent to help Iraq's war against Iran were annihilated and many Jordanian soldiers were taken captive.

Gen. Shakir who is one of King Husayn's closest advisers, was director of operations in the massacre of Palestinian guerrillas in the 1970 "Black September" campaign against the Palestinians living in Jordan.

Three years earlier, the incompetence of the forces under his command in the West Bank led to the occupation of the area by the Zionist forces in the Arab-Israeli war.

In response to a question by the British defence weekly, General Shakir who is considering British and French offers for the sale of a considerable number of combat aircraft, said "We would be happy to undertake any such exercise that would enable the British troops, or other NATO troops, to exercise in Jordan."

Reportage on Visit of Burkinabe Minister, Delegation**Arrive in Tehran***LD252125 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 15 Apr 86*

[Excerpt] Mr Guissou, the Burkinabe minister of external relations and cooperation, arrived in Tehran tonight at the head of a delegation. He was welcomed at Mehrabad Airport by Foreign Minister Velayati. Commenting on the aims of this political delegation's visit, Mr Velayati said:

[Begin recording][Unidentified reporter] Mr Velayati, what are the aims of Mr Guissou's visit to Iran?

[Velayati] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. The minister of external relations and cooperation of the revolutionary country of Burkina Faso, a West African country, is making this visit following previously announced wishes by the Islamic Republic and his own reciprocal desire to embark upon such a trip. [end recording]

Received by Velayati*LD262052 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 26 Apr 86*

[Excerpts] Burkinabe minister of external relations and cooperation, Basile Laetare Gissou, who is currently visiting Tehran, met with Foreign Minister Velayati today. During the meeting, Guissou said: Iran and Burkina Faso are fraternal and revolutionary countries. As far as the enemies of the revolution are concerned, there is no distinction between the two because they are trying to divert the revolution in Iran and in Burkina Faso.

Explaining his country's potential, the Burkinabe minister of external relations and cooperation said: When the French ruled our country they did not allow us to make use of this potential in the interests of the people. In conclusion, he requested the establishment of an Islamic Republic embassy in Burkina Faso,

alluding to it as a big stride toward the expansion of bilateral relations.

Afterwards, Foreign Minister Velayati said: Since the revolution we have tried to expand our relations with the Third World countries, particularly those in Africa. Having explained post-revolution achievements in Iran, Velayati said: We are prepared to cooperate with you in technical and economic fields, as well as sharing our experiences of the past 7 years.

Meets With Khamene'i

LD271250 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 27 Apr 86

[Excerpts] Basile Guissou, minister of external relations and cooperation of Burkina Faso, met President Khamene'i and delivered a written message from his country's president. In his message, chairman Thomas Sankara expresses the full support of his government and people for the revolutionary Iranian people in aborting imperialists' plots which aim to destroy the Islamic revolution of Iran and called for the expansion of bilateral friendly relations in order to perpetuate their common struggles against the superpowers.

President Khamene'i expressed his gratitude for the message, saying: The views your country's chairman expressed about our country and revolution are, in fact, indicative of the closeness of views on a great many principles and fundamental stands of both countries. These views presage a favorable future in bilateral relations. The president added: Your country enjoys a progressive and anti-arrogance system in Africa. This is significant for that continent; for today, the United States is bent on expanding its influence in the African Continent. Consequently, the presence of a progressive and anti-arrogance regime can have a great influence on African nations. Concluding his remarks, he expressed the hope that the stands taken by Burkina Faso would further strengthen such a system in the African Continent.

Musavi, Guissou Confer

LD271952 Tehran IRNA in English 1820 GMT 27 Apr 86

[Text] Tehran, April 27, IRNA — Visiting Burkina Faso's foreign minister Basile Laetare Guissou met Prime Minister Hoseyn Musavi here Sunday and expressed his country's interest in expansion of relations with Iran. During the meeting Foreign Minister Guissou referred to the difficulties created by foreign powers for his country and said "We are optimistic about the future because we have a history of struggle like the Islamic Republic."

Prime Minister Musavi in return said that problems of the Third World stem from colonialism but, he added, a country which relies on the power of spirituality and that of its people can represent an independent policy. Musavi said Iranian presence in [words indistinct] has thwarted all the enemies' conspiracies and this proved the degree of success an independent system depending on people's power can attain.

Velayati Interviewed Before Leaving for Syria, Libya *LD281201 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 28 Apr 86*

[Interview with Iranian Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati on 28 April by unidentified correspondent; place not given — recorded]

[Excerpts] Having seen off the minister of external relations and cooperation of Burkina Faso, Foreign Minister Velayati, heading a high-ranking political delegation, left for Libya and Syria. He is accompanied by Minister of the Islamic Revolution Guard Corps Rafiqdust, as well as a number of our country's political officials.

[Begin recording][Question] Now that you have seen off Burkina Faso's minister of external relations and cooperation, you are leaving for Syria and Libya. Would you please tell us about the objectives of these visits and their implications at the world level in the aftermath of U.S. air strike against Libya and her threats directed against the Islamic Republic and Libya?

[Velayati] Considering that the three countries of Syria, Iran, and Libya are the targets of repeated attacks by the United States and her collaborators, it becomes necessary for us to have closer contacts and exchange views and expand our cooperation, for we are fighting imperialism from a single trench. The type of hostility displayed against us is very similar.

In Libya, our Libyan brethren have been the target of direct U.S. attack. In Syria too, our Syrian brethren have been invaded by a U.S. agent in the region, namely, the usurping regime ruling over Palestine. Israel, a U.S. proxy, consistently threatens Syria. As for the Islamic Republic, the regime ruling over Iraq launched its invasion against us at the behest of global imperialism. Furthermore, the supporters of that regime continue to provide it with aid in order to apply further pressure on the Islamic Republic.

These similarities as well as others, considering our common goals and common struggles against Zionism and its benefactors, necessitate that we consult each other, particularly during sensitive periods.

In view of the fact that over the recent days, Libya in particular was exposed increasingly to political, psychological, and military attacks, it becomes necessary for us to stay on the side of our Libyan brethren and demonstrate in practice that we are always together under any circumstances and that we help each other to fight our common enemies. [end recording]

Foreign Minister Velayati, Delegation Visit Libya

For JANA coverage of the visit to Libya by Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati, and Minister of the Iranian Revolutionary Guards Corps Rafiqdust, including a statement issued upon arrival and talks held with officials, see the North Africa section of the 29 April Middle East & Africa *DAILY REPORT* and subsequent issues.

Reportage on Combat Operations in War With Iraq**IRGC Kills 200 Iraqis***LD271832 Tehran IRNA in English 1823 GMT 27 Apr 86*

[Text] Tehran, April 27, IRNA — In combat operation launched by the ground forces of the Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps in the Val-Fajr-8 theater in Al-Faw region of Iraq Sunday morning 200 Iraqi troops were reportedly killed.

According to the Khatam ol-Anbiya' joint army-IRGC headquarters, the Islamic combatants of Iran attacked enemy positions on the strategic salt factory axis in the region and also destroyed large quantities of enemy weaponry and bunkers.

Iraqi Counteroffensive 'Defeated'*LD281225 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 28 Apr 86*

[Telephone dispatch by unidentified correspondent]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. Rain, wind, storms and the resistance put up by the soldiers of the Lord of the era, may God speed his coming, caused the enemy's futile counteroffensive launched in Majnun Islands, this morning, to be completely defeated.

The Iraqi regime's warmongers, having suffered defeat in the "Val-Fajr-8" operations, and having lost Al-Faw, are resorting to any means to boost the morale of their defeated forces. They have launched a propaganda campaign about new territories gained and new victories achieved — all baseless claims — and this morning began a counteroffensive along the two central and western axes of the Majnun Islands using their amphibious forces. Ten enemy boats that intended to go around and approach the front line of the forces of Islam, were confronted by the alert and vigilant forces of Islam. Once informed of this move, the courageous combatants of Islam attacked the Iraqi forces, first aiming at two enemy boats and setting them on fire, as a result of which the two boats blew up along with the crew and ammunition on board. Having seen and heard the terrible fire and explosion, the crew of the other boats were frightened, lost their determination and tried to escape. But the mortar and artillery fire of the forces of Islam inflicted more casualties on the enemy.

Simultaneously, Iraqi infantry units tried to infiltrate the positions of our forces along one of the dirt roads on Majnun Islands. But they were confronted with the alert and resisting blasphemy fighters of Islam and having suffered heavy casualties, they were forced to flee and retreat. The Iraqi military commanders who had promised to recapture Al-Faw today, disheartened and realizing that they had not succeeded at the Majnun Islands and had not destroyed even one position of the Iranian forces, sent their disorganized, frightened, and defeated forces toward the same objectives again at 0300 hours. This occurred during a rainstorm that began at 1900 hours the night before and had worsened at midnight, disrupting the traffic of their forces and boats.

Once again the blessings of God and his support in the shape of wind, rain, and storms in the region, together with the steadfastness of the combatants of the Islamic Republic of Iran, defeated the second offensive of the Iraqis. Leaving behind many corpses on the road and in the waters of Hawr al-'Adhim, and losing large numbers of weapons, the Iraqi counteroffensive ended.

Hoping for more courageous acts for the warriors of God and more volunteers for the warfronts and the blessings of you, the Muslim ummah, the correspondent of the Central News Unit on the southern fronts in Khuzestan

'Hundreds' of Iraqi Casualties*LD281626 Tehran IRNA in English 1550 GMT 28 Apr 86*

[Text] Ahvaz, April 28, IRNA — An Iraqi attack on the Southern Majnun Island was repulsed Monday night with a counter-offensive that left hundreds of Iraqi casualties, said a military commander here. Stormy weather helped Iranian defenders when it blew sand and dust in the eyes of the incoming troops, said to be two divisions of Iraq's Third Army. "The alert of the Islamic forces and the use of offensive tactic in the face of incoming forces caused the enemy to suffer heavy casualties and leave the operational region" the commander said.

Iraq has been reporting assaults on the southern Majnun, one of the two man-made islands in marshlands bordering the two countries. But the commander said the attacks have been "an effort to create propaganda base and compensate for defeats in the Val-Fajr-8" war theater further south. "The extraordinary resistance of the Islamic forces and their combat alertness forced the enemy to pull back with hundreds of casualties and no achievements" said the commander.

He said "Heavy storm started in the face of enemy forces. It created difficulties in their sinister plans. Ba'th troops were lost amongst sand and dust. The units lost communication and organization".

Islamic forces of Iran captured oil rich Majnun Islands over two years ago. Iraqi efforts to recapture the area have been defeated.

Communique No 2,454*LD281740 Tehran IRNA in English 1725 GMT 28 Apr 86*

[Text] Tehran, April 28, IRNA — Iran's jet fighters pounded Iraqi troop concentration centers in Sharhani region east of Iraq at 2:15 GMT Monday inflicting considerable casualties on them. All planes returned to their bases safely, according to a military communique here.

Communique number 2454 released by the Joint Staff Command of the Armed Forces said Iranian navy inspected a merchant ship in Strait of Hormuz Sunday. The ship was permitted to continue voyage once it was known she carried no Iraqi-bound goods.

Iranian combatants strongly beat back latest Iraqi futile attack in southern Majnun Island at 23:30 GMT Sunday, the command said.

In Western fronts Muslim combatants strengthening their defensive positions, dispatched patrols and checked Iraqi movements. They also prevented Iraqi vehicle movements in the region by their mortar and artillery fire, the communique said.

Elsewhere the command said over the past 24 hours exchange of fire continued sporadically in western fronts which was more intense in Sumar and Mehran. Five group bunkers and observation posts as well as two military vehicles and a munitions depot of Iraqi forces were destroyed and a number of them were killed or wounded.

Islamic combatants in northwestern fronts checked Iraqi infantry and armoured activities destroying several gun emplacements and killing or wounding a number of them, said the communique. Extensive fire of the Iranian anti-aircraft units thwarted Iraqi air raids on the operational regions.

Over the past 24 hours the city of Abadan in Khuzestan Province was subjected to Iraqi long-range artillery fire during which 24 houses were damaged, said the command.

Severe Fighting in Al-Faw Area

GF290457 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 29 Apr 86

[Text] According to the Khatam ol-Anbiya' Joint Operational Headquarters, the brave soldiers of the Army of Islam last night staged a three-pronged attack from strategic points to destroy the Zionist enemy's forces. The successful attacks were launched from the areas of Al-Faw-Basra, Al-Faw-Al-Bihar, and an area north of the salt factory. This is a continuation of the "Val-Fajr-8" area of operations.

By rushing the positions of the aggressive Iraqi Armed Forces, they delivered heavy casualties and damages to the Zionist enemy. The results of this successful operation will be announced in the next Khatam ol-Anbiya' communique for the brave Islamic ummah.

'Blitz Offensive' Launched on Al-Faw

LD290554 Tehran IRNA in English 0552 GMT 29 Apr 86

[Text] Tehran, April 29, IRNA -- The Islamic forces of Iran in a blitz offensive attacked Iraqi troops in three strategic axis on Al-Faw-Basra, Al-Faw-Al-Bihar, and north of the salt factory, Monday night. The Iraqi forces sustained heavy casualties and damages during the Monday night offensive.

Iraqi Troops Captured

LD290935 Tehran IRNA in English 0916 GMT 29 Apr 86

[Text] Al-Faw, April 29, IRNA — Some 25 Iraqi POW's captured in the course of the Monday night blitz on Iraqi troops in

Al-Faw Peninsula, were transferred behind the fronts Tuesday morning. Injured Iraqi POW's have been sent to medical centers for treatment.

A number of Iraqi POW's transferred behind the front told IRNA that the attack of the Islamic forces of Iran caught them by surprise. They said the attack paralyzed Iraqi forces to the extent that they could not embark on any action. The attack, carried out in continuation of Val Fajr-8 offensive, coded "Ya Mahdi Saheb al-Zaman" after the name of the 12th imam of the prophet's (Saw) household, was launched in three axis of Al-Faw-Basra, Al-Faw-Bihar, and north of the salt factory.

Reports said that so far over 4,000 Iraqi soliders have been killed or injured, a large amount of their ammunition destroyed and four brigades smashed.

'4,000 Iraqi Troops' Killed

LD290750 Tehran IRNA in English 0746 GMT 29 Apr 86

[Text] Tehran, April 29, IRNA — Over 4,000 Iraqi troops from various brigades were killed and a large amount of Iraqi military equipment were destroyed by the Islamic forces of Iran in an attack carried out in continuation of Val-Far-8 offensive in Al-Faw Peninsula Monday night. The attack was launched in three axis of Al-Faw-Basra, Al-Faw-Al-Bihar and north of the salt factory.

Latest reports from operational theater said that the Islamic forces of Iran, after advancing more than two kms in the peninsula, are now fortifying their positions.

4 Iraqi Brigades Destroyed

LD290821 Tehran IRNA in English 0814 GMT 29 Apr 86

[Text] Al-Faw, April 29, IRNA — In a blitz on the Iraqi troops in three axis in Al-Faw Peninsula Monday night, the Islamic forces of Iran destroyed four Iraqi brigades and killed or wounded over 4,000 Iraqi soldiers. The attack, carried out in continuation of Val-Fajr-8 offensive, was launched in three Al-Faw-Basra, Al-Faw-Al-Bihar and north of salt factory, smashing brigades 2, 420, 412, and 802 of the Iraqi Army. [sentence as received] Meanwhile, the Islamic forces of Iran captured a great number of Iraqi forces and destroyed a large amount of their light and heavy weapons.

The forces of Islam have fully established their positions in the operation theater and are checking any enemy movement. The surprise attack has paralyzed the Iraqi forces.

'Hundreds' of Iraqis Killed

LD290916 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0847 GMT 29 Apr 86

[Unscheduled announcement]

[Text] Please pay attention! According to a report from the Khatam ol-Anbiya' Headquarters, the center of joint operations

of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps and the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, at 2115 last night the self-sacrificing combatants of Islam began a successful operation along the "Val-Fajr-8" operational zone, code named "Ya Mahdi ya Sahib al-Zaman," and brought new victories to the ever-victorious ummah of Islam.

During this victorious operation, which was staged along the strategic Al-Faw-Basra road, hundreds of enemy troops were killed and large quantities of the equipment of the Ba'thist, Zionist forces of Saddam were set on fire.

The relentless battle of the forces of Islam still continues, while being inspired by the auspicious name of the Lord of the Ages, the promised Mahdi, God speed his auspicious advent.

Further Details

GF290855 Ahvaz Domestic Service in Persian 0848 GMT
29 Apr 86

[Unscheduled announcement]

[Text] Dear listeners, attention, attention. According to the Khatam ol-Anbiya' Joint Operational Headquarters, the sacrificing warriors of the Army of Islam at 2115 last night [1745 GMT] started a successful operation along the "Val-Fajr-8" area of operations with the holy secret code of "O Mahdi." They have brought new victories for the ever-victorious ummah of Islam.

During this successful operation, which was carried out on the road from Al-Faw to Basra, hundreds of enemy troops were killed and a large amount of the weaponry belonging to Saddam's Ba'thist Zionist army was set on fire.

The ever-strong struggle of the warriors of Islam, continues with the holy name of the Mahdi — may God expedite his return.

Iraqi Command HQ Taken

LD290929 Tehran IRNA in English 0950 GMT 29 Apr 86

[Text] Al-Faw, April 29, IRNA — The Islamic forces of Iran seized an Iraqi command headquarters on Al-Faw-Basra axis in the course of their blitz on Iraqi troops Monday night. The attack, code named "Ya Mahdi", launched at 21:15 hours local time (17:45 GMT), in three Al-Faw-Bihar and north of salt factory axis. [sentence as received] It inflicted heavy casualties and damages on the Iraqi forces, latest reports put the number of casualties as high as 4,000.

Meanwhile, four Iraqi brigades were smashed and large amount of their light and heavy weapons were destroyed by the forces of Islam. Amny Iraqi forces were captured, 50 of whom have so far been transferred behind front and the rest will be transferred gradually.

Khatam ol-Anbiya' Communique No 2

LD291128 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT
29 Apr 86

[Communique No 2 of the Khatam ol-Anbiya' Headquarters, the center for combined operations of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps and the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, issued 29 April]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. There is neither might nor strength, but in Almighty God. [Koranic verse] O Mahdi, O Lord of the Era! O we brave ummah of Islam! O zealous and selfless nation!

At the same time as the ceremonies marking the auspicious birthday of the Lord of the Era, the remnant [baqiyat] of God, may God hasten his lofty advent, during a victorious operation which began at 2115 last night with the holy codename of "Ya Mahdi Ya Sahib al-Zaman," may God hasten his lofty advent, the brave defenders of the Islamic revolution succeeded in advancing "Val-Fajr-8" operational zone along the strategic Al-Faw-Basra highway thus liberating many kilometers of enemy positions in this sector. They hoisted the proud flag of dear Islam in this region.

During this victorious operation, the forces of Islam killed or wounded more than 4,000 Iraqi troops. The forces of Islam also captured a large number of the enemy troops, and so far 75 of them have been taken behind the frontlines.

During a heavy battle, the fighters of the army of monotheism also succeeded in liberating four important strategic ravines [galugah] used by the Iraqi forces north of the "Val-Fajr-8" operational sector; and by capturing these ravines, they surrounded several destroyed battalions from 4 enemy brigades. [sentence as heard] Also during this operation, the 48th Infantry Brigade of the Iraqi Armed Forces, which was encircled at the start of last night's operation, was completely destroyed thanks to the attack of our forces.

The combatants of Islam also surrounded and fully captured the command headquarters of the enemy forces in the northern region of the "Val-Fajr-8" operational zone along the strategic Al-Faw-Basra axis.

An intruding enemy plane, which was trying to provide air cover for Saddam's Ba'thist-Zionist forces, hit by the fire of the warriors of Islam and crashed.

Right now, the selfless warriors of the Corps of Islam are continuing their relentless battle by encircling the 420th Brigade of the defeated Iraqi Army. May the prayers of the zealous ummah of Islam assist and open the way for their courageous sons. There is no help but from Almighty God.

[Signed] The Khatam ol-Anbiya' Headquarters

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

30 APRIL 1986

Iran-Iraq War

In further reportage on fighting in the Al-Faw area, a military communique broadcast by Tehran radio claimed that Iraqi casualties have surpassed 4,600 and that Iran has "completely occupied" 7 "strategic" ravines in the area. The communique also asserted that Iran "liberated" several more km and brought the Iraqi command headquarters in that area under "complete control," and claimed that two Iraqi planes were downed. On the other hand, an Iraqi military spokesman cited by INA termed the Iranian statement on the downing of two Iraqi aircraft "absolutely untrue," while a later INA report, also citing an Iraqi military spokesman, dismissed Iranian reportage on fighting in the Al-Faw area and described it as "exposed lies." An Iraqi communique carried by Voice of the Masses radio acknowledged the Iranian offensive in the Al-Faw area but claimed that Iraq had "succeeded in halting" it in a series of "fierce" battles that inflicted "massive" losses upon the Iranians.

In other action, the Iraqi V Army Corps reportedly captured 16 areas of "vital territory" in the northeastern fronts, according to another communique broadcast by the radio.

Additionally, an Iraqi military spokesman disclosed that the Iraqi Air Force bombed Kermanshah airport, INA reported, while IRNA acknowledged that Iraqi planes raided a village in Bakhtaran, killing a civilian and wounding 32 others.

Bahrain-Qatar Dispute

A Bahraini Government statement carried by SPA expressed "regret" over Qatar's military action against "Bahraini territory" and the detention of unarmed civilian workers, considering this a departure from the principles of good neighborliness on which the GCC is based. The statement expressed "great appreciation" and support for Saudi Arabia's mediation efforts, adding that Bahrain also appreciates the "positive" stands of GCC leaders and their "sympathy with Bahrain's stand," which seeks to avoid violence.

The UAE paper *AL-KHALIJ* reported earlier that GCC officials are working on a proposal to replace Qatari forces on Fasht al-Dibal with a token force from the GCC's "Peninsula Shield" forces. Nevertheless, Bahraini and Qatari forces are still on "maximum alert," the paper said, and Bahrain's *GULF DAILY NEWS* subsequently reported further evidence that Qatar is continuing a military buildup along its western coast. The Qataris are still keeping secret the whereabouts of 29 men abducted from Fasht al-Dibal by Qatari troops, *GULF DAILY NEWS* stated.

Arab Summit

Syrian Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar', currently in Belgrade, "clearly hinted" that a postponement of the proposed emergency

Arab summit "should not be ruled out," in a statement to KUNA. Elaborating on this, Al-Shar' revealed that Syria has agreed to Libya's "request" to host the summit in Sabha, Libya, and he maintained that emergency summits should discuss "urgent matters," namely the U.S. aggression against Libya. SANA reported citing the same statement. Meanwhile, Libyan Major 'Abd al-Salam Jallud insisted that the summit should discuss a "joint Arab reaction" to the U.S. raids in an interview with the Beirut paper *AL-SAFIR* cited by KUNA. Jallud accused a number of Arab states of "attempting to exploit" the summit to "force" Libya into "making concessions," and asserted that the U.S. raids had not deterred Libya from pursuing its "revolutionary line."

In related developments, Rabat radio reports noted the arrival of several Arab foreign ministers in Fes for the scheduled 30 April Arab foreign ministers meeting.

Libya

Iranian Message — Colonel Mu'ammarr al-Qadhdhafi received the visiting Iranian delegation, Tripoli radio reported, adding that the Iranians gave Al-Qadhdhafi a message from the Iranian leadership which affirmed that "hundreds of thousands" of Iranian volunteers are ready to go to the Jamahiriyyah to help protect the Libyan leader. IRNA's report on the meeting did not mention this offer, though IRNA noted the Iranian foreign minister's statement that Iran is willing to provide "any sort of assistance."

Reagan Warning — A poem broadcast by Tripoli television promised that President Reagan will "most certainly" be killed "like a stuck pig."

Relations With Egypt, Tunisia — A JANA commentary sharply attacked Egyptian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Butrus Ghali for his statement to Spain's *EL PAIS* that Arab countries are agreed in condemning Libya's "destabilizing" policy. As for Libya's recent request for arms from Egypt, Egyptian Prime Minister 'Ali Lutfi stated during his visit to Amman that after the long alienation between Egypt and Libya, the latter should have focused attention on improving relations rather than requesting arms, according to MENA.

In a parliamentary address reported by Tunis radio, the Tunisian foreign minister confirmed that Tunisia's decision to remain silent over the U.S.-Libyan conflict is linked with the rupture in Tunisian-Libyan relations and with Libya's threats and accusations against Tunisia.

Syria

SANA announced the public execution of Lebanese citizen Ahmad Hasan 'Id, who was arrested by the authorities in connection with a 13 March explosion in Damascus. The criminal's confessions left no room for doubt that the "agent" Iraqi regime was behind the "spiteful, foolish crime," SANA asserted.

Israel

The authorities have arrested a terrorist squad suspected of perpetrating a number of recent attacks in Jerusalem, including the 27 April killing of a British tourist, Jerusalem radio reported. The squad was reportedly affiliated to Colonel Sa'id Musa Muragha's [Abu Musa] organization.

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Official Mentions Karmal at Road Naming Ceremony
LD291520 Kabul BAKHTAR in Dari 1130 GMT 29 Apr 86

[Excerpts] Kabul, 29 Apr (BAKHTAR) — In accordance with a decree of the DRA Revolutionary Council Presidium, the main road between Microrayon and the military university was named "Jada-e Awal-e May" [1 May Road] to welcome 1 May — the international solidarity day of workers and toilers in the world.

In the meeting of Kabul's toilers which was held on the occasion, Wali Mohammad Abdiani, chairman of the Executive Committee of the Kabul City People's Representative Council spoke and said: According to the words of the dear leader of the Afghan people Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and president of the DRA Revolutionary Council, Kabul is the heart of revolutionary Afghanistan, which has earned another honor that is naming the 1 May Road in the city.

Karmal Signs Decree

LD291658 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashio 1530 GMT 29 Apr 86

[Excerpt] The DRA Revolutionary Council Presidium has issued a decree naming the road from Microrayon crossroads to the military university 1 May road.

[Dated] 28 April 1986

[Signed] Babrak Karmal, President of the DRA Revolutionary Council Presidium

Provincial Theater Shows Film of Karmal Visit
LD291509 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1330 GMT 29 Apr 86

[Excerpts] To welcome the 8th anniversary of the victory of the April Revolution in Aybak city, provincial capital of Samagan Province, the municipal cinema yesterday showed a film of the official visit to Bulgaria by the dear leader of Afghanistan's people, Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and president of the DRA Revolutionary Council.

Reception Held Commemorating April Revolution
LD291334 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 16700 GMT 27 Apr 86

[Text] In honor of the 8th anniversary of the glorious April Revolution, a reception was held in the Foreign Affairs Ministry Reception Hall tonight by the Presidium of the Revolutionary Council and the DRA Council of Ministers.

Members of the Politburo and Secretariat of the PDPA Central Committee, members of the Revolutionary Council, members of the Council of Ministers, chairman, and members of the NFF Central Council, and a number of the Armed Forces generals, ambassadors, charges d'affaires, and military attaches of the friendly countries resident in Kabul and their wives participated in the reception.

During the reception, concerts were performed by the DRA radio and television's performers and Soviet performers.

AFP: Heavy Water Plant Fire Reported in Orissa*BK301019 Hong Kong AFP in English 1008 GMT 30 Apr 86*

[Text] New Delhi, April 30 (AFP) — Hundreds of families fled in panic as a heavy-water plant caught fire in eastern Orissa state late Tuesday, the PRESS TRUST OF INDIA reported Wednesday. The blaze was triggered by a burst synthesis gas pipe line at the plant, run by the Indian Atomic Energy Department at Talcher, about 340 kilometres (212 miles) southwest of Calcutta. The fire was "devastating", the agency said, and caused hundreds of families to flee in panic. No casualties were reported, PTI said. Firefighters brought the blaze under control in about 90 minutes, the agency added.

Further Details

BK301252 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 30 Apr 86

[Text] In Orissa, a fire broke out at the heavy water plant of the Atomic Energy Commission [AEC] near Talcher Fertilizer Corporation of India [FCI] last night destroying the pump house and the adjacent control room. The pump house could not withstand the pressure of synthetic gas leading to heavy leakage and later caught fire. According to FCI sources, there has been no casualty. The fire was extinguished within 4 hours. The director of the AEC is rushing to the spot from Bombay tonight.

Reportage, Commentary on Sikh 'Khalistan' State**Announcement of New State**

BK291231 London BBC World Service in English 1200 GMT 29 Apr 86

[From "Radio Newsreel" program]

[Text] Sikh extremists occupying the holy shrine of their religion — the Golden Temple in Amritsar — have thrown down a new challenge to the Indian federal government in Delhi and their state government of Punjab. They say they are setting up a separate state of Sikhs to be known as Khalistan. The move was proclaimed in a statement signed by all five members of the committee set up by the extremists. Our correspondent Mark Tully says four of the five are on the police wanted list.

[Begin Tully recording] The committee met journalists in the [words indistinct] of the marble pavement which surrounds the sacred pool in the center of the temple complex. They announced that the government of Khalistan would be formed very soon and said the prime minister designate had been authorized to nominate his cabinet, but they refuse to name the prime minister designate. The committee would not give details of the territory they claimed as Khalistan, but they did say the capital would be Delhi. The Indian capital is well outside the boundaries of the existing Sikh state of Punjab. The committee appealed to all governments to recognize Khalistan, making specific appeals to several countries including Britain, America, Pakistan and India. It offered to negotiate with India to avoid bloodshed.

There is split among the Sikhs inside the Golden Temple, and it could be that today's announcement is a bid by the group which appears to enjoy the majority support to outdo its rivals. It could also be an attempt to force the government to send police or paramilitary forces into the Golden Temple in the hope that this would cause outrage amongst the Sikh community.

Sikh Spokesman on Aims

BK291034 Hong Kong AFP in English 1027 GMT 29 Apr 86

[Text] Amritsar, India, April 29 (AFP) — Sikhs in this Indian state of Punjab have formed a Sikh nation and asked world governments to recognise it, a Sikh militant spokesman announced Tuesday. "We have formed the government of Khalistan... We will shortly announce the boundary," spokesman Bhai Gurdev Singh told reporters inside Sikhism's holiest shrine, the Golden Temple.

Mr. Gurdev Singh said he would seek permission from the United Nations to send a representative to the world body. "Khalistan will maintain cordial relations with all its neighbours, including India," he said. "We will have our own army... the motto of our government will be welfare for all... the state religion of Khalistan will be Sikhism," he said. "We will have our constitution where Sikhism will flourish." Governments, including those of the United States, France, Britain, Canada, China and Pakistan, were asked to recognize the new government, he said.

In New Delhi, Indian Government spokesman V. B. Verma told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE, "we know nothing" of the announcement.

A five-member group formed by the militants January 26 to handle Sikh affairs made the decision to form the government and will guide it in political, international and religious affairs, Mr. Gurdev Singh said. The group mainly represents the All India Sikh Students Federation, the sword-arm of the militants, and the Damdami Taksal, a Sikh seminary from where the late firebrand leader Jarnail Singh Bhindranwale rose, observers said.

Mr. Gurdev Singh said the group had appealed to Sikhs across India to migrate to Punjab. He said the Khalistan government would offer a population exchange plan with the Indian Government to allow Sikhs to come to Punjab and Hindus in the Punjab to migrate into India. Hindus account for about 40 per cent of the state's population. A section of India's 16 million Sikhs have been campaigning for six years for greater political autonomy for their rich farming state in India's north, while the hardcore among them want secession and formation of Sikh nation.

There was no proclamation of the announcement in the streets of Amritsar, and observers in New Delhi said it was more a publicity stunt than a serious move. They recalled that Sikh groups in 1980 had printed "Khalistan passports" and currency and had made a similar claim. The campaign suffered a setback when the Indian army moved in on the Golden Temple to evict militants in June 1984 and some 650 people died. Militancy appears to have begun rising again since late last year, with some 100 killed in related violence since January 1.

Chandigarh, New Delhi Reaction

*BK291603 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT
29 Apr 86*

[Text] The extremists-supported 5-member panthic [Sikh religious] committee today announced the formation of what they called Khalistan from the Golden Temple complex in Amritsar. Prominent Sikh leaders, including the agriculture minister, Mr Buta Singh, has strongly condemned the statement.

The Punjab chief minister, Mr Surjit Singh Barnala, has described the secessionists' statement by the self-styled five members of the panthic committee as absurd, senseless, and sacrilegious. He said the statement issued by these elements and their foreign collaborators shows that they have become desperate in the face of firmness shown by the state government. In a statement in Chandigarh this evening, the chief minister said these elements will now discover that no Sikh accepts the idea of a separate state. Mr Barnala said the statement deserves to be condemned strongly by all.

In New Delhi, various leaders said the attitude of these persons was known and their announcement does not come as a surprise. Apparently, this is the desperate bid to gain some ground as such elements are feeling increasingly isolated in the Sikh community. The Bharatiya Janata Party leader, Mr L. K. Advani, asked the government to take necessary action immediately to deal with the situation. The prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, had consultations with his top aides on the development.

Punjab Cabinet Meets; Officials Comment

*BK300423 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT
29 Apr 86*

[Excerpts] There has been widespread condemnation of yesterday's announcement of the formation of the so called Khalistan by a minor fringe of the extremist elements operating from the Golden Temple in Amritsar represented by the 5-member Panthic [Sikh religious] committee. The Punjab chief minister, Mr Surjit Singh Barnala, described the secessionist statement by the self-styled panthic committee as absurd, senseless and sacrilegious.

The Punjab cabinet is meeting in Chandigarh this morning and the working committee of the Akali Dal, the district presidents of the party and the legislature party are meeting in the afternoon to discuss the situation arising out of the announcement by the panthic committee. The Punjab governor, Mr Siddharta Shankar Ray, has summoned the meeting of the recently constituted informal group of all political parties to discuss the situation in the state. The prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, had consultations with his top aides on the development.

Prominent Sikh leaders belonging to various organizations all over the country have strongly condemned the secessionist act of the disgruntled panthic committee. In a press release in New Delhi they said the Sikhs, known for their national spirit, do not attach any importance to the declaration. It said that those associated with the committee are proclaimed enemies of the Sikh panth and the country. They urged the state government to

swiftly evict them from the Golden Temple and punish them under the National Security Act. The speaker of the Haryana Vidhan Sabha, Mr Tara Singh, has said that such declarations are dangerous to the security of the state and all Sikhs of the country are against such unpatriotic act.

The Andhra Pradesh chief minister, Mr N.T. Rama Rao, said those who have issued the secessionist statement have no credibility. The West Bengal chief minister, Mr Jyoti Basu, has extended his support to Mr Barnala in tackling the situation. The Bharatiya Janata Party leader Mr L.K. Advani, asked the government to take necessary action to immediately deal with the situation. The Janata Party president, Mr Chandrasekhar, described it as a sinister plan which would undoubtedly be treated with contempt by the patriotic people of Punjab. The general secretary of the All India Forward Block, Mr (Chito) Basu has expressed grave concern over the incident and stressed that India's unity and integrity must be preserved at all costs. A large number of members of parliament belonging to different parties have also pledged their support to Mr Barnala.

Punjab Cabinet Issues Condemnation

*BK301255 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT
30 Apr 86*

[Text] The Punjab cabinet at an emergency meeting in Chandigarh today strongly condemned the secessionist statement issued by the self-styled Panthic [Sikh religious] committee in Amritsar yesterday. A resolution adopted at the meeting said this move has exposed the sinister design of the foreign forces who are trying to destabilize and disrupt the unity and the solidarity of the country. The cabinet reiterated its resolve to fight to the finish against these elements that cannot be allowed to challenge the sovereignty of the country. The cabinet also felt that speedy implementation of the Punjab accord will further strengthen the resolve of the people of Punjab to deal firmly with anti-democratic, anti-national, and unpatriotic forces.

Sedition Case Registered

*BK300752 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0730 GMT
30 Apr 86*

[Excerpt] In Amritsar, a sedition case has been registered by the police against the 5-member panthic [Sikh religious] committee which has announced the formation of the so-called Khalistan. The case under Sections 124-A and 153-A of the Indian Penal Code, Section 13 of the unlawful activities act and Sections 3 and 4 of the antiterrorist act [was] registered at the city Kotwali [police station] last night.

Home Minister: 'Grave Matter'

*BK300919 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT
30 Apr 86*

[Text] The home minister declared in the Lok Sabha today that the announcement of the formation of so-called Khalistan by a group of people styling themselves as the Panthic [Sikh religious] committee is a grave matter and the government is

determined to deal with the situation sternly. Making a statement, Mr Narasimha Rao, said no part of our territory will be allowed to be used for secessionist activities. The Punjab government is taking firm action on the matter. The center will give all the assistance and support that the state government requires.

Immediately after the statement, the speaker, Mr Balram Jakhar, held a meeting in his chamber with the home minister and the opposition leaders. As soon as the House assembled, several members from both sides sought to raise the issue and requested the chair to suspend the question hour for an immediate discussion. Sharing the concern of the members, Mr Rao said the government is prepared for a discussion. It is giving all the seriousness to the matter that it deserves. Certain steps are being taken, but he could not give the details. The speaker asked the members to give a notice for the discussion.

The home minister made a similar statement in the Rajya Sabha. Seeking clarification, members expressed grave concern over the development. They said all patriotic forces should unite and act swiftly to isolate the forces of secession. A member wanted mobilization of the masses against these elements and immediate implementation of the Punjab accord. Another member said that an all-party team should immediately visit Punjab to restore confidence among the people and express solidarity with them. Another member wanted to know what action the government of Punjab or the Center has taken since the so-called declaration was made. The discussion in the House is on.

Security Forces Enter Golden Temple

BK301222 Hong Kong AFP in English 1216 GMT 30 Apr 86

[Excerpt] Amritsar, India, April 30 (AFP) — Armed police and commandos entered the Sikhs' Golden Temple here Wednesday to clear out the militant Sikhs who had announced the formation of a separate homeland Tuesday, eyewitnesses said. Shots were heard soon after a large number of the forces went inside the holiest of the Sikh shrines, the eyewitnesses said.

Further on Golden Temple Action

BK301320 Hong Kong AFP in English 1310 GMT 30 Apr 86

[Text] Amritsar, India, April 30 (AFP) — Indian security forces Wednesday stormed the Golden Temple here, the Sikh's holiest shrine, a day after militants had announced the setting up of a separate Sikh homeland, witnesses said. Seven truckloads of commandos aided by Punjab police entered the shrine to flush out Sikh militants who had proclaimed their homeland, Khalistan, Tuesday and called on foreign governments to recognise it. Witnesses said that the security forces stormed the temple at 5 pm (1130 GMT) and fired shots.

In New Delhi, federal government spokesman, Ramamohan Rao, said "I am unable to comment on the development... the government may make a statement in the Parliament". Parliamentary sources said that a statement would be made later this evening.

Between 1,000 to 2,000 people were inside the shrine when the security forces went in, informed sources said.

Before the move by the security forces, informed sources in Amritsar had told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE that the five had left the shrine, apparently to escape arrest. Gurdav Singh, leader of the five, said Tuesday the "Khalistan" government based in the Golden Temple would soon announce the new state's borders and would have "cordial relations with all its neighbours, including India."

Residents here reported mounting tension as the news of the storming triggered closure of shops and markets. Soon after the security forces reached the temple area, a curfew was clamped down, a witness said. Residents were given five minutes to leave the area before the security forces took up positions, witnesses said. "The operation is still continuing and we do not know what is happening", said one witness. "There is utter confusion... people are worried that it may be a repetition of the June 1984 Indian Army storming," another said, and his view was echoed by others.

About 650 people, including the entire leadership of the militant Sikhs, were killed when the Army fought its way into the temple in this operation which sparked a chain of reactions culminating in the October 31 assassination of then Prime Minister Indira Gandhi.

Further Reportage on Visit of FRG Chancellor

Talks With Gandhi; Dinner Remarks

LD281835 Hamburg DPA in German 1422 GMT 28 Apr 86

[Text] New Delhi, 28 Apr (DPA) — Federal Chancellor Helmut Kohl intends to expand relations with India in the political, cultural and economic spheres.

After a 2-hour exchange of views with Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, the chancellor stated on Monday evening (local time) during a meal: "I have come to India with the stated aim of expanding and deepening this relationship wherever possible."

Kohl also spoke with Gandhi about the development of East-West relations, the efforts for disarmament, the role of the Nonaligned Movement as well as the Libyan crisis and the relationship of both countries with China.

In a parallel German-Indian round of delegation talks in which Juergen Warnke, federal minister for economic cooperation, took part, Bonn again showed its readiness to deliver DM400 [figure as received] in development aid to New Delhi. The Federal Republic wishes to give priority to multilateral help, for instance via the International Development Bank.

The chancellor was officially welcomed by Gandhi early on Monday at Delhi airport. Then Kohl visited the Goethe Institute and the Indira Gandhi Memorial, and planted a sapling at the monument to Mahatma Gandhi. Zail Singh, president of India, paid tribute to Kohl's visit as a historic event.

Kohl also discussed with Gandhi the development of international terrorism and the role of Libya. In his dinner speech, he called terrorism the "plague of our time" and called for a common fight: "We must now grasp it by the roots, not [wait] until we are affected by it immediately," Kohl told Gandhi that he regrets that although the nonaligned states had spoken against terrorism, they had not as yet called Libya to order. There must not be double standards. Following disagreements 2 years ago in connection with the release from German custody of a Sikh terrorist wanted in India, Kohl emphasized that the FRG did not tolerate any form of terrorism on its soil, also not by Sikhs. Bonn is willing to conclude an extradition treaty with India.

Two framework agreements in the fields of coal and ocean technology are being signed during the Kohl visit, to intensify German-Indian relations.

At the dinner given by government leader Gandhi, the chancellor said that the FRG wants to pass on its technology to India also. Bonn is prepared to participate in the modernization process in that country. India is also to be given help in improving its sales opportunities in the German and European markets.

Kohl also spoke in favor of vitalizing the political dialogue between the industrialized and the developing countries. Gandhi should stimulate thought about form and content. The chancellor emphasized the role of the nonaligned states in safeguarding world peace and praised India's demand for world-wide nuclear disarmament, which was also supported by Bonn.

Pledges Continued Support

*BK291616 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT
29 Apr 86*

[Text] The West German financial assistance to India is to be stepped up by 10 percent from this year. Announcing this at a

news conference in New Delhi today, the West German chancellor, Dr Helmut Kohl, said India will continue to be his country's main partner in development cooperation.

It was disclosed that during this visit, a memorandum of understanding was signed on cooperation in coal and lignite industries. Another memorandum will deal with cooperation in oceanographic technology. A third memorandum relates to new fields, of research at the Indian Institute of Technology in Madras. There was general agreement on developing scientific cooperation in different fields.

Dr Kohl declared that West Germany stands for the unity and integrity of India in the face of any attempt to destabilize this country. Describing terrorism as a plague of our time, he said his discussions also related to cooperation in fighting this menace.

Answering a question about concluding an extradition treaty with India, Dr Kohl said the question had come up for discussion. West Germany will not tolerate the emergence of terrorism against India. But this matter has to be tackled within the framework of the rule of law. He said his country will take action within this framework if notified about specific cases of terrorism.

Dr Kohl was asked for his views on the American air raids on Libya. He said he had advised the Americans against taking the action. But he understood the feeling of bitterness among the Americans. He maintained that the recent terrorist attack on a discotheque in West Berlin could be traced to Libya.

Dr Kohl spoke of his meeting with Mother Teresa and said he had admired her work for the poor and the unwanted.

He disclosed that he had invited the prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, to visit West Germany.

'Unprovoked Attacks' From Afghanistan Protested
BK291537 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT
 29 Apr 86

[Text] The Afghan Armed Forces fired six rounds from tanks on Sunday morning [27 April], which landed at Lakka Tigga in Khurram Agency, killing one Afghan refugee and injuring another. Later, at 1330 on the same day, Afghan forces fired 13 rounds from tanks at the same area but there is no report of any loss of life or damage to property.

At 1650 on the same day, the Afghan forces fired a mortar shell which landed near the Frontier Corps post at Tor Kham, injuring a soldier of the Khyber Rifles. Just 5 minutes later, the Afghan forces fired two mortar shells, which landed in the Frontier Corps area in Tor Kham, wounding one Pakistani national.

The Afghan charge d'affaires was summoned to the Foreign Office in Islamabad this afternoon, and a strong protest was lodged with him over these unprovoked attacks.

Prime Minister on Nuclear Energy, Political Situation
BK261119 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT
 26 Apr 86

[Excerpt] The prime minister, Mr Mohammad Khan Junejo, inaugurated five additional power producing units at the Guddu thermal power station near Kashmor this afternoon. Speaking on the occasion, he declared that Pakistan, as an independent, sovereign and self-respecting nation, has the right to use modern technology to improve the life of its people. The prime minister said the modern technology needed eradicating poverty, ignorance, and diseases includes the use of nuclear technology. Pakistan has already made its stand clear on the development of nuclear technology, and we don't have to give repeated assurances on this account to anyone. Pakistan will use nuclear power for peaceful purposes in order to bring about all-round socioeconomic development, and we believe that our friends will help us in the use of this technology for peaceful purposes as they have helped us in the energy field.

The prime minister said the way to overcome the energy crisis in the country is to use whatever technology is available. Pakistan has great manpower potential. We have competent experts who can put modern technology into use for our development. The prime minister said the government is determined to remove every obstacle in the way of the country's socioeconomic development. The important factor in our efforts is to achieve progress in agricultural industries and other sectors.

Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo said that in the formulation of his 5-point program he has given special consideration to the needs of the poor. He said we want economic progress that will benefit every segment of the population and every region of the country. Every development project is devised to keep this

aim in view. The prime minister declared that financial constraints will not be allowed to hinder the government's aim to achieve the socioeconomic progress of the people and all resources will be utilized to implement the development projects. He said 90 percent of the villages will be provided with electricity by 1990 and loadshedding will be done away with. He said the Guddu project will definitely help in achieving this. He asked the minister for water and power to ensure that there is no loadshedding during the month of Ramadan.

The prime minister thanked the Chinese and American Governments for their help and support for the completion of Guddu project.

Earlier on arrival at the Sukkur airport, the prime minister reiterated that there is complete political freedom and freedom of expression in the country. He said there has been no emergency in the country since the lifting of martial law.

In reply to a question, Mr Mohammad Khan Junejo said that the National Assembly has authenticated the Constitution. If anyone wants to pass an amendment, this can only be done through the national forum. He said everyone knows what was done by those who call themselves mazlum [oppressed] today at the time when they were in power. He said those violating the law of the country will be dealt with accordingly.

Afghan Mujahidin Active in Oruzgan, Qandahar
BK280227 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT
 28 Apr 86

[Text] According to reports from Afghanistan, the mujahidin shot down a military aircraft and a helicopter gunship attacking their positions in Oruzgan Province on the eve of the anniversary of the communist takeover of government in Afghanistan.

Another report says the mujahidin successfully attacked a military post in Qandahar and occupied it without any resistance. During this action, the commander of the post and 30 soldiers joined the mujahidin. They also seized a large quantity of arms.

Mujahidin Raid Army Camp; Recapture Zhawar
BK291027 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT
 29 Apr 86

[Text] In Afghanistan, 18 Soviet-Karmal troops were killed when the mujahidin raided a Soviet-Karmal Army camp near Charikar in Parvan Province last week. A number of tanks were also damaged during the operation.

Another report says the mujahidin killed a number of Soviet-Karmal troops and recaptured the town Zhawar in eastern Afghanistan recently.

NEPAL

Anti-Government 'Gangs' Attack Katmandu Police Posts
BK291700 Hong Kong AFP in English 1654 GMT 29 Apr 86

[Text] Katmandu, April 29 (AFP) — Masked gangs have attacked three police posts in Katmandu, vandalising them and injuring at least two policemen, press reports said here Tuesday. These three groups, each consisting of four people armed with iron rods, attacked police posts in three main shopping areas of the city early Monday, the press reports said. The masked attackers reportedly vandalised the police posts, injured two police and chanted slogans against Nepal's partyless Panchayat system and strewed anti-Panchayat leaflets before running off. The official news agency RSS said that three people had been arrested and were being questioned. It did not reveal their identities.

Nepal is preparing for a general election May 12 and in recent weeks the banned pro-Marxist and Leninist factions of the banned Nepal Communist Party has launched a campaign of wall slogans urging voters to boycott the poll.

SRI LANKA

AFP: 54 Confirmed Dead in Kantalai Dam Burst
BK250934 Hong Kong AFP in English 0916 GMT 25 Apr 86

[Text] Colombo, April 25 (AFP) — Fifty-four people have been confirmed dead and 83 missing after an irrigation dam burst in northeast Sri Lanka, officials said Friday. It would take a few more days to check on whether the 83 missing had been drowned or managed to escape after the 150,000 acre (61,000 hectare) Kantalai dam in Trincomalee District burst its banks early Sunday, swamping several villages, Trincomalee District Administrator D. M. Ariyaratne said. But he said that 54 people had been confirmed killed. Earlier unofficial reports had said the death toll could be as high as 200.

Brigadier Harsha Gunaratne, the Trincomalee District military coordinator who handled the rescue operation and Mr Ariyaratne visited the Kantalai area again Thursday to assess the situation.

Some 8,000 people who had been housed in makeshift temporary accommodation after the dam burst destroyed their homes had returned to their homes or what was left of them, officials said. But some had later returned to the temporary camps because they found that their homes had been completely destroyed. Government officials had fanned out in the affected areas to survey the damage and their reports were expected by late Friday, officials said.

The Social Services Ministry Wednesday appealed for coconuts, saying that some 30,000 people were suffering an acute food shortage, and particularly needed coconuts, chilis and curry powder. A government statement Wednesday said it would pay compensation to those whose homes and crops had been destroyed and grant "soft loans" to rebuild houses.

Delhi: Weekend Violence, Jaffna Strike Detailed
BK290411 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 29 Apr 86

[Text] In Sri Lanka, 23 militants were killed over the weekend in two separate incidents when the boats in which they were traveling were destroyed by the Sri Lankan Navy off the Jaffna Peninsula. According to delayed information reaching Colombo, 11 of them belonging to the Tamil Eelam Liberation Organization — TELO — were killed when their boat was blown up near the port at Karainagar on Saturday night. Another 12 reportedly from the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam [LTTE] were killed on Sunday [27 April] morning in a similar encounter with Sri Lankan naval patrol. All India Radio's Colombo correspondent, Plabon Majunder, reports that among those killed was a militant leader from Point Pedro.

A bandh [strike] was observed in Jaffna yesterday following these incidents. Black flags were flown from houses, shops were closed, and most of the vehicles were off the road. A call for hartal [strike] has been given for today as well.

A landmine struck a security forces vehicle at Palugamam about 23 km from the eastern town of Batticaloa. Unconfirmed reports indicate that the death toll may be high.

4 'Terrorists,' 1 Policeman Killed 28 Apr

BK291123 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 29 Apr 86

[Text] Four terrorists were killed and six captured by security forces at Valveddi in Batticaloa yesterday after the terrorists had attacked a police patrol. Security sources told LANKA PUWATH that four terrorists on bicycles had approached the police party, thrown a grenade at them, and got away on their bicycles. Immediately after this, another gang of terrorists had appeared and began firing at the police party. Reinforcement was sent from the nearby police station and air assistance was also provided to repulse the attack. Security sources said that two police constables had been injured in the attack. One police constable later died.

Government troops later conducted a search in the area and found bodies of four terrorists and also took into custody six terrorists. The security forces captured detonators, camouflage uniforms, identity cards belonging to the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam terrorist group, and a quantity of cyanide.

'Terrorist' Killed by Security Forces 25 Apr

BK281139 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 28 Apr 86

[Text] Marxist terrorists attacked a security forces' mobile patrol at (Kagama) in Ampara last Friday. According to LANKA PUWATH security forces counterattacked effectively and one terrorist was shot dead. The other terrorist fled. There were no casualties among the security forces.



IRNA: Khomeyni Receives Al-Faw Fighters*LD301041 Tehran IRNA in English 1010 GMT 30 Apr 86*

[Text] Tehran, April 30, IRNA — Imam Khomeyni, the leader of the Islamic revolution of Iran, received a group of Islamic forces of Iran who fought for liberation of the Iraqi port of Al-Faw, at Jamaran mosque here Wednesday morning.

Majlis speaker Hojjat ol-Eslam Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani who is also Imam Khomeyni's representative to the Supreme Defense Council, was also present at the meeting.

Rafsanjani referred to various dimensions of Val-Fajr-8 offensive which led to the liberation of Al-Faw and said that the offensive was a turning point in the history of the Iraqi-imposed war.

Referring to the Monday attack Iran launched in northern Al-Faw peninsula in which four Iraqi brigades have been smashed, Rafsanjani said that heavy blows were dealt at the remnants of Iraqi troops in the area have paralyzed the enemy. [sentence as received]

He further referred to the dispatch of 'Karbala' caravans to battlefields and said "We are prepared to give an unforgettable lesson to our enemies."

The Islamic forces who were received by Imam Khomeyni were representing various units. A number of Army and Islamic revolution's Guards Corps commanders were also present.

At the end of the meeting, the founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran responded to the enthusiasm of the visitors.

Khamene'i Continues Visit to Baluchistan va Sistan*Addresses Soldiers in 'Sensitive' Province**LD301228 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 30 Apr 86*

[Excerpts] The joint morning parade of the Armed Forces stationed in Zahedan was held this morning in the presence of President Khamene'i, at the base of Zahedan's 88th Armored Division. President Khamene'i in his speech referred to the duties of the Armed Forces in defending the holy aims of the Islamic revolution, the chairman of the Supreme Defense Council said: One of the most important issues for the Armed Forces at this juncture, especially during the imposed war period, is their unity and solidarity.

He added: This is a sensitive province. World arrogance incites its follower to create mischief. Therefore, all over the province, you should preserve your honor, will, strength and decisiveness, and reliance on God. You should deal decisively with insurgents, smugglers and lackeys of world arrogance.

He concluded by saying: Today we are ready to confront any aggressor. We shall put any aggressor in his place, with strength. With that same strength, we threw the aggressor regime of Saddam out of our borders and achieved great victories.

Addresses People in Iranshahr*GF300626 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT 30 Apr 86*

[Text] President Mr Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, who has travelled to Sistan va Baluchestan Province to review the issues and problems in the province and to meet the province's people, arrived in Iranshahr yesterday afternoon, on the second day of his trip to this province. At the airport, he was welcomed by people from all walks of life, Friday imams — both Shi'a and Sunni — clergy, and local officials.

According to the Central News Unit, after his arrival in Iranshahr, Mr Khamene'i appeared at a gathering of the town's people in the Iranshahr sports stadium. He gave a speech during which he said: Because of the effort of dedicated and pious young people, the government of the Islamic Republic has been able to accomplish 10 times more than what was done during the cruel years of the shah's regime. But despite this, our task is only half done. With the help of God, we are determined to turn the abundant province of Sistan va Baluchistan into a cultivated province.

According to the report received, in continuation of his visit to Iranshahr, the president yesterday afternoon met and held talks with the Sunni and Shi'a clergy, wearing the traditional Baluchi clothes. The Central News Unit indicates that the imam's representative in the province, the governor general, Iranshahr's Friday imam, the temporary Sunni Friday imam of Zahedan, other Friday imams, clergy, governors, and district governors of Baluchestan were also present at this meeting.

During this session, Mr Khamene'i stated that he was pleased to be among them. He added: I am proud that I am a theological student and a clergyman. In this regime, anyone who is able to take a step for Islam must be proud. Anything we have is due to the blessing of the Koran and the wisdom of the Lord. Today, the mission and the responsibility of the Iranian ulema — both Shi'a and Sunni — is more than their responsibilities and duties in the past. It is more than the responsibilities of other ulema in other places.

Continuing, Mr Khamene'i commented on the plots of the world aggressors against the Islamic Republic of Iran. He said: Today the Iranian people have taken the Koran in hand in the face of Western and Eastern powers and are going forward. We must beware that the Shi'a and Sunnis must stand together and must be one united front.

Prime Minister Condemns U.S. 'Plot' on Oil Prices*LD291924 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 29 Apr 86*

[Excerpt] Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi this evening visited the various sections of the Parchin group of chemical plants belonging to the defense industries organization. Our correspondent reports that in the course of the visit, attended also by the defense minister, the head of the defense industries organization reported that despite all the difficulties and the inability to gain access to the original plan for the Parchin complex of plants,

which had been designed by foreign consultants earlier, operations relating to the installation, operation, and expansion of the Parchin complex have been implemented thanks to around-the-clock efforts by Iranian specialists and inventors.

Later, Prime Minister Musavi addressed a gathering of employees at the plants and referred to the stratagems employed by U.S. imperialism to plunder the resources of developing countries and to plan those countries' economies in order to make them dependent. He also described America's plot to bring down oil prices and the role played by regional reaction in supporting America's plots.

He said: Recently oil prices have fallen thanks to America's plots and to the cooperation of regional reaction. It led to colossal amounts of capital belonging to the oppressed people of the region being poured into the pockets of European and American capitalists leading to a further acceleration of economic growth in the industrial countries.

The prime minister also referred to the fact that Reagan has announced that he would be prepared to launch a Marshall Plan to help economic recovery in oil-producing countries.

He said: By that plan America intends to make reactionary regimes more dependent and to increase their indebtedness in order to drive its claws deeper into their bodies and suck their blood even more. This is America's general policy: to plan the economies of dependent countries in such a way as to make it impossible for those countries to live independently.

In conclusion, the prime minister addressed the employees of the chemical industries belonging to the defense industries organization and said: The country's independence and its move toward self-sufficiency — a miracle that is taking place in our country today — are due to the people's struggle and steadfastness, and their faith in safeguarding the country's independence. Without the assistance of everyone in the nation the country's move towards self-sufficiency would not have been possible.

Musavi Presides Over Cabinet Meeting

LD301043 Tehran IRNA in English 1014 GMT 30 Apr 86

[Text] Tehran, April 30, IRNA — Prime Minister Hoseyn Musavi here Wednesday presided over a session of cabinet ministers in which recent developments in the country were reviewed.

The Prime Minister also reported on the latest attack of Islamic forces of Iran on Iraqi troops in northern Al-Faw peninsula and also the extent of Iraqi casualties.

Meanwhile, oil minister Gholam Reza Aqazadeh presented a plan prepared by his ministry on diversifying oil terminals as to reduce the country's vulnerability in this respect.

Labour Minister Abol Qasim Sarhadizadeh also discussed the Labour Day and praised devotions on Iranian workers in war fronts.

Iraq Issues Curfew for Foreign Residents

GF291719 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1430 GMT 29 Apr 86

[Text] Following the sharp deterioration of the security situation in Iraq and the failure of the Zionist Ba'thist regime intelligence to control the situation, the Iraqi regime has asked foreign nationals residing in Iraq to stay indoors after 1500 [1100 GMT].

This was announced in the latest edition of the news report of the Supreme Assembly of the Islamic Revolution in Iraq which added that the request of the ruling regime in Iraq includes all foreign nationals residing in various governorates in Iraq.

Reportage on Combat Operations in War With Iraq

Communique No 2,455

LD291541 Tehran IRNA in English 1530 GMT 29 Apr 86

[Text] Tehran, April 29, IRNA — Iranian naval forces intercepted three commercial ships sailing under foreign flags in waters of the Hormuz Strait Monday, but allowed them to continue their voyage after being satisfied they were not carrying any Iraqi-bound goods, according to a military communique here Tuesday.

Communique number 2455 of the Joint Staff Command of the Armed Forces said in Yebis, southern fronts, Iranian Muslim combatants checked Iraqi motorized and armoured units and opened fire on enemy military hardware sites as well as light and heavy engineering vehicles, inflicting substantial casualties and losses on them. Artillery fire of Iranian forces pounded Iraqi troops who were parading their armoured units in an attempt to boost morale of Iraqi personnel. Their activities were halted and heavy casualties and damage inflicted on them, said the Joint Staff.

The communique said Iranian Muslim forces traded heavy artillery fire with Iraqi troops in the Western fronts especially in Sumar as a result of which four enemy vehicles and one 106 mm gun were destroyed and a number of enemy troops killed or wounded. Parts of Iraqi positions were also set ablaze.

In the northwestern fronts, the communique said, Muslim forces of Iran checked most engineering operations of Iraqi forces in areas overlooking Panjwin and exchanged sporadic artillery fire with enemy troops elsewhere throughout these fronts.

Meanwhile, Iraqi long range artillery fire on Abadan Monday damaged several buildings in the city.

100 POW's Transferred Behind Lines

LD291633 Tehran IRNA in English 1505 GMT 29 Apr 86

[Text] Al-Faw, Southern Iraq, April 29, IRNA — Some 100 Iraqi soldiers taken captive in Monday night offensive of Iranian Muslim combatants have been transferred behind the fronts. Transfer of other Iraqi POW's is continuing. Iranian Muslim

forces launched their offensive against Iraqi troops in three axes in the Val-Fajr-8 operational theater Monday night.

Khatam ol-Anbiya' Communique No 3

LD291751 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 29 Apr 86

[Text] According to Communique No 3 of the Khatam ol-Anbiya' Headquarters, the joint operational center of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, at 2115 last night Islam's combatants, in the course of victorious operations with the blessed codenamed "Ya Mahdi, Ya Sahib al-Zaman" [O Mahdi, O Lord of the Era, may God Almighty hasten his advent] launched an attack on enemy forces along the three strategic axes, Al-Faw-Basra, Al-Faw-Al-Bihar and the salt lake, and encircled huge numbers of the ambushed enemy forces and, while setting ablaze many of their positions, fortifications, and military equipment, engaged in heavy battle with the forces of Saddam's Zionist Ba'thist regime. In the course of last night and today Islamic forces completely occupied seven important strategic ravines of the Zionist enemy along these axes.

Also, with the deployment of Islamic forces in the new positions and raising aloft of the glorious banner of Islam by the victors of today's operations in that region all the aggressor enemy's supply and communications axes are now within direct range of our forces' fire. Similarly, following the operations today by Islam's combatants heavy casualties have been inflicted on the Saddamist brigades and battalions encircled by our forces in that area. Apart from the total destruction of 48th Infantry Brigade of the 11th Division and of the remnants of the demolished 96th Infantry Division of the Iraqi Army, so far the 420th Infantry Brigade and the 2d and 3d Battalions of the 2d Iraqi Army Division have been totally destroyed and a number of their troops have been captured by Islam's forces. Thus, enemy casualties during the glorious operations last night and today have surpassed 4,600 and 105 enemy POW's have also been moved behind the front.

With the advance made by the Islamic forces along the strategic Al-Faw-Basra axis several other kilometers of enemy positions have been liberated and with their complete conquest the selfless troops of the monotheistic army have succeeded in occupying and bringing under their complete control the command headquarters of the Baghdad regime's forces.

Also, two aircraft of the Zionist enemy which sought to support the feeble forces of the Zionist regime of Baghdad were hit and shot down by troops of the Islamic army.

Iraqi Planes Bomb Bakhtaran Village

LD291908 Tehran IRNA in English 1821 GMT 29 Apr 86

[Text] Tehran, April 29, IRNA — Iraqi warplanes bombarded village of Rahimabad near Bakhtaran as well as a residential area in the city at 18:45 hours local time (15:15 GMT) Tuesday. One civilian was martyred and 32 others wounded. Some houses were also damaged as a result of the bombardment.

UN Team Invited To Visit Bakhtaran

LD300812 Tehran IRNA in English 0550 GMT 30 Apr 86

[Text] Tehran, April 30, IRNA — The War Information Headquarters (WIH) invited the U.N. special team supervising the implementation of the June 12, 1984 agreement, to inspect ruins of the latest Iraqi air raid on the western border city of Bakhtaran.

In a statement issued here Tuesday, the WIH said that Iraqi planes hit a residential area in Bakhtaran, capital of Bakhtaran Province, and also the Rahimabad village near the city Tuesday afternoon, as a result of which one civilian was killed and 32 others injured.

The Iraqi regime once again proved its disrespect for international regulations, it added. However, the Islamic Forces of Iran will give due response to this Iraqi violation of human rights at war fronts, the statement said.

In June 12, 1984, the Iraqi regime assured the United Nations secretary general that it would totally stop its attack on non-military targets in Iran. Since then the Iraqi regime has repeatedly attacked Iranian cities and civilians.

Khatam ol-Anbiya' HQ Update

GF300520 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 30 Apr 86

[Text] According to the Khatam ol-Anbiya' Joint Operational Headquarters, the Islamic warriors continued their glorious victories, which began yesterday, as a followup to the "Val-Fajr-8" operations in the strategic axes of Al-Faw-Basra, Al-Faw-Al-Bihar and the salt lake. Last night they succeeded in delivering heavy blows to the 66th Special Brigade of the defeated Iraqi army, killing more enemy troops.

Also during the Islamic soldiers' clashes yesterday, several tanks and armored personnel carriers of the Iraqi troops were destroyed with shell fire of the ground troops of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps and the fast-flying eagles of the Havaniruz [helicopter rangers] of the ground forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Iraqi Troops Under Siege

LD291938 Tehran IRNA in English 1927 GMT 29 Apr 86

[Text] Tehran, April 28, IRNA — Muslim combatants put up loud speakers near the salt lake in Al-Faw peninsula to call on besieged Iraqi troops to surrender, one combat commander said Tuesday. He said several Iraqi soldiers have already waved the white flag and come towards Iranian positions.

Two Iraqi battalions came under siege Tuesday afternoon as Muslim combatants advanced towards the salt factory northwest of the oil-port city of Al-Faw. The commander said his troops advanced five kilometers in the "heart of enemy positions and purged the area of Iraqi troops." He told IRNA at 18:00 hours (1430 GMT) that other Iraqi units no longer had the ability to

maneuver in the area and had failed to break the siege. Before Tuesday's operation Iraqi troops overlooked portions of Iranian communication links in the area. "But no longer" the commander said.

Al-Faw peninsula is Iraq's only access to open sea. Port of Al-Faw lies on Arvand River on the east. The salt lake and the salt factory is in its center.

Iraqi 31st Division 'Crushed'

*LD301055 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT
30 Apr 86*

[Text] According to reports from the Khatam ol-Anbiya' Headquarters, the joint operations center of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps and the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, simultaneous with the shining victories of the forces of monotheism in the "Val-Fajr-8" operational theater, last night, during a clash with Iraqi forces who were attempting an offensive, the combatants of Islam inflicted heavy losses on Iraq's 31st Division and completely crushed them.

During this heavy battle, thanks to the self-sacrifices of the ground forces, guards and Basij combatants from Yazd Province, more than 300 enemy troops were killed and a large amount of enemy equipment was destroyed.

Khatam ol-Anbiya' Communique No 4

*LD301124 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT
30 Apr 86*

[Communique No 4 from Khatam ol-Anbiya' Headquarters]

[Text] Last night and today the forces of Islam continued their operations along the three operational axes of Al-Faw-Basra, Al-Faw-al-Bihar and the salt lake. During an intense clash beginning early last night and continuing until this morning, the forces of Islam succeeded in destroying several more enemy positions, liberating several more kilometers of territory in this sector and capturing some new fortifications and strongholds on the Al-Faw-Basra highway.

In the course of these operations, in addition to the destruction of the brigades and battalions which were mentioned in previous communiques of the Khatam ol-Anbiya' Headquarters, the forces of Islam succeeded in fully crushing the 28th Infantry Brigade, which had been regrouped and reorganized, the commando battalion of the 702nd Brigade, two complete battalions of the 101st Brigade, one battalion from the 501st Brigade, one tank company and two battalions from the 66th Brigade of Special Forces of the defeated Iraqi Armed Forces.

The forces of Islam also killed and captured a large number of the enemy troops, bringing to over 5,100 the number of casualties of the defeated Iraqi Armed Forces.

In the course of these operations, launched in order to advance into positions of Iraq's fresh troops along the Al-Faw-Basra highway to and rout them, a large number of enemy arms and

equipment, including more than 10 tanks, several personnel carriers, dozens of large ammunition depots and loaders and mechanized excavators came under synchronized fire of the armored division of the ground forces of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, and from pilots of the airborne division of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran. The enemy's equipment was destroyed.

The forces of Islam also captured large quantities of the Iraqi forces' arms and ammunition, which are currently being used against the Zionist enemy in battle. A helicopter gunship of the Ba'thist enemy also was hit by the fire of the forces of Islam in this region and crashed.

Iraq Counterattack Crushed

LD301126 Tehran IRNA in English 1100 GMT 30 Apr 86

[Text] Tehran, April 30, IRNA — The Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps and the Army in the south of Majnun Island crushed a counterattack of the Iraqi 31st Division Tuesday night. The Islamic Forces of Iran inflicted heavy casualties on the enemy forces, which is estimated to be more than 300. In this operation large amount of enemy munitions were destroyed and set ablaze by the Islamic Forces of Iran.

Afghan Nationals Protest Soviet Occupation of DRA

LD271357 Tehran IRNA in English 1354 GMT 27 Apr 86

[Text] Tehran, April 27, IRNA — Afghan Muslims residing in Iran held demonstrations across Iranian cities Sunday and protested to the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan.

Afghan political parties and combatant organizations which participated in the rallies called for unconditional withdrawal of the Soviet forces from the country. "Death to the Russians - death to America" they shouted.

Addressing the marchers in Tehran, an Afghan theologian Hojjat ol-Islam Anvari described Soviet aims in the invasion and said the only way to achieve victory in Afghanistan is to unite the combatant organizations. Anvari said Afghan people are facing one enemy and they should struggle in union against their enemy and its puppet Government in Afghanistan.

Over 1.5 million Afghan refugees live and work in Iran. They enjoy the same rights as Iranian citizens. The Islamic Republic supports the establishment of an independent Muslim government in Afghanistan.

Last year representatives from the United Nations visited Afghan refugee camps in east Iran. They praised the policy of the Islamic republic vis-a-vis Afghan refugees.

Also speaking at the Tehran demo was an Afghan Sunni theologian Maulawi Sahib 'Abdol Rasoul who condemned U.N.-sponsored negotiations between Afghanistan and Pakistan Governments. 'Abdol Rasoul rejected any talks in which representatives of the Afghan Muslims were absent.

A 13-article resolution was issued at the end of the demonstration in which continuation of struggle on the basis of the Islamic ideals were reiterated. The resolution also called for the down fall of the Kabul regime. Marchers furthermore lauded measures taken by Islamic Republic of Iran in connection with the Islamic Revolution of Afghanistan, but they called for more Iranian contribution. Identical demonstrations have also been reported from other cities including Esfahan, Mashhad, Yazd, Kerman and Qom.

Afghan Revolutionaries Attack Keshtmand's Home
LD301251 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT
30 Apr 86

[Text] The Muslim Afghan revolutionaries last Sunday [27 April] launched a rocket attack on the residence of Soltan 'Ali Kesht

mand, prime minister of Afghanistan. According to a report dispatched by the Central News Unit from Islamabad, during this attack a rocket exploded near the British Embassy in Kabul, which is in the vicinity of the Afghan prime minister's residence.

On the basis of this report, the Muslim Afghan revolutionaries timed their attack to coincide with readiness of the Kabul regime's officials to celebrate the anniversary of the Marxist coup d'etat in Afghanistan.

Nothing has been reported about casualties of this attack.

The report adds that 2 days prior to this attack, the Muslim Afghan revolutionaries also fired seven rockets on Kabul airport.

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1 MAY 1986

Iran-Iraq War

The Iraqi IV Army Corps commander claimed that Iraq "occupied" 252 square km of Iranian territory during a 30 April offensive against Iranian positions in the Faqqeh area in the south central sector, Voice of the Masses radio reported. A communique carried by the radio said the Iraqis "penetrated" 12 km "deep into their targets," taking "extremely important" territory and killing and capturing "large numbers" of Iranians. Although not acknowledging an Iraqi offensive in that area, communiqués cited by IRNA divulged that the Iranian Air Force carried out two bombing raids on Iraqi positions there 1 May, asserting that the Iraqis sustained heavy personnel and materiel losses.

In continuing reportage on fighting in the Al-Faw area, a military communique broadcast by Tehran radio claimed that Iran liberated more territory during an "intense" clash the night of 29-30 April, "crushing" several Iraqi battalions and bringing the number of Iraqi casualties to over 5,100.

Iranian military reports also announced that over 300 Iraqis were killed in the southern Majnun Islands in an unsuccessful Iraqi counterattack late 29 April, according to Tehran radio.

In further air action, a communique cited by IRNA asserted that Iranian anti-aircraft fire downed an Iraqi plane in the northern Persian Gulf, while an Iraqi communique carried by Voice of the Masses radio reported that the Iraqi Air Force bombed the Iranian oil fields of Ahvaz, Marun, Bibi Hakimeh, and Agha Lari. The Iraqi communique also mentioned that Iraqi planes attacked "one large and another very large" maritime target off the Iranian coast, scoring "direct" hits.

Qatar-Bahrain Territorial Dispute

An official Qatari statement carried by WAKH asserted that Qatar "deeply regrets" its disagreement with Bahrain over maritime borders, adding that Qatar had attempted to resolve the dispute through "all fraternal and amicable means" which proved fruitless because of Bahrain's "insistence" on continuing to "violate" Qatar's maritime sovereignty. Bahrain's attempt to transform Fasht al-Dibal into an "industrial island" violated a Saudi-brokered agreement in which each side pledged not to carry out any action to strengthen its legal position concerning disputed territory, the statement added. Qatar was accordingly "compelled to stop" Bahrain's land filling and construction activity in Fasht al-Dibal in order to restore the status quo ante. The statement went on to express Qatar's gratitude and appreciation for Saudi Arabia's mediation efforts and for the GCC leaders' concern to resolve the issue.

Diplomatic sources cited by Tehran radio's Arabic service stated that Qatar has begun withdrawing troops from Fasht al-Dibal and that 29 construction workers seized by Qatari troops will shortly be permitted to return to Bahrain.

Libya

AFP reported Libya's decision to expell 19 Britons and at least 36 Spaniards, while ANSA noted that the authorities have asked over 60 Italians to leave.

In the UAE, *AL-ITTIHAD* published an interview with Colonel Mu'ammarr al-Qadhdhafi 1 May, KUNA reported, noting the Libyan leader told the paper that President Reagan is pushing Libya "to become another Cuba and to declare its alignment with the Warsaw Pact." Al-Qadhdhafi also said he is expecting a "greater role" from the Soviet Union, which has "already started" to move toward this role.

As for the forthcoming Arab emergency summit, JANA announced 1 May that the leaders of Syria, Algeria, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, and the UAE have agreed to hold the conference in the "Great" Jamahiriya.

Arab Foreign Ministers' Conference

Arab foreign ministers held a closed meeting in Fes after hearing speeches from Arab League Secretary General Chadli Klibi and Moroccan Foreign Minister Abdellatif Filali in a public opening session, Rabat radio reported. During the closed session the ministers exchanged views about the agenda and some delegations expressed their wish to carry out more contacts with their governments on the matter, Filali revealed afterward in remarks cited by the radio.

Syria

During his visit to Belgrade, President Hafiz al-Asad received FRG Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher at the latter's request, Damascus radio disclosed in a brief report that did not mention the content of their talks. Genscher, however, divulged details about the meeting in remarks to journalists reported by DPA, saying he told Al-Asad that "small terrorist groups" must "not destroy the good relationship between Arabs and Europeans" and that the FRG will not allow terrorist actions on its soil. Al-Asad stated that Syria wants to cooperate with the FRG in combatting terrorism, Genscher disclosed. As for Al-Asad's talks with the SFRY President, Belgrade radio said the two sides took a "serious and responsible" position on the problem of terrorism and stressed the need for joint action to combat it.

Egypt

Police arrested a number of demonstrators in Aswan during a 29 April clash with members of an "extremist Muslim faction" who were attempting to hold a demonstration and to "storm" a mosque in the town, an Interior Ministry official announced in a statement reported by Cairo radio.

Southern Lebanon

Two "terrorists" were killed and three IDF soldiers were wounded in a 29 April clash in the eastern sector of Israel's security strip, Jerusalem radio reported. Beirut radio said the Israelis moved some 50 tanks into the security strip 29-30 April.

Maghreb Affairs

Party Meeting — Following a 27-28 April conference in Algiers, four Arab Maghreb political parties issued a joint communique that called for Maghreb unity and urged a "speedy solution" to the Western Sahara problem. The communique, which was broadcast by Algiers radio, noted that the conference was attended by Algeria's FLN, Tunisia's Destourian Socialist Party, and two Moroccan parties — the Istiqlal and the Socialist Union of Popular Forces. The communique added that the parties have agreed to ask the leaders of the three countries to swiftly convene a meeting of a Maghreb "advisory council," whose establishment was urged at the parties' 1984 conference in Tunis.

Tunisia — Opposition leader Ahmed Mestiri has been temporarily discharged from jail on health grounds, Paris radio reported, adding that the decision was made pending a 14 May court ruling on Mestiri's appeal.

DRA

The DRA lodged a protest with Iran over a 21 April Iranian television interview with Afghan "counterrevolutionaries," and warned that such "propaganda" and "hostile" action by Iran against the DRA will have "grave consequences" for bilateral relations, Kabul radio reported.

On the internal situation, BAKHTAR reported that 200 members and the "ringleaders" of the "Jamiyat band" surrendered to the authorities in Faryab Province, in addition to 14 others of various rebel bands. Kabul radio admitted that 3 persons were killed and 17 others were wounded in a rebel mortar and missile attack on Aybak city, Samangan Province, according to a Sarandoy spokesman.

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Iranian Actions Carry 'Grave Consequences'

*LD301851 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT
30 Apr 86*

[Text] The charge d'affaires ad interim of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Kabul was summoned to the DRA Ministry of Foreign Affairs this afternoon, where the director of the Second Political Section gave him a note the text of which reads as follows:

On 21 April 1986, corresponding to 1 Sowr 1365, an Iranian television [as heard] program allotted time for an exclusive interview with individuals named Sheykh Hoseyni and Nasrollah Mansur who belong to the Nasr [victory] and Harakat-e Enqelabi Eslam-e Afghanistan [Afghan Islamic Revolution Movement] counterrevolutionary organizations. The authorities of the Islamic Republic of Iran [IRI] gave the Afghan rebel bands the opportunity to attack the Afghan-Pakistan talks in Geneva, distort the facts about traditional Afghan-Soviet relations, and dispute the sovereign jurisdiction of the legal government of the DRA over Afghanistan. In the interview, approval was expressed for the continued murdering of innocent people and the expanded level of destruction until a so-called victory is achieved and an Islamic government is set up in Afghanistan.

[Passage indistinct] For the activities of these bands and assisting them in propagandistic and aggressive actions against the DRA, is a war which is contrary to the desires, aspirations, and efforts of the DRA to observe the principles of peaceful coexistence and good neighborliness and to refrain from interfering in the internal affairs of others.

The DRA strongly condemns these provocative actions committed in negligence of international laws and norms in neighborly relations by the IRI authorities, which demonstrate an unfriendly and futile stance that could lead to the further deterioration of our interstate relations. The DRA expresses its desire for the normalization of relations between itself and Iran in accordance with the interests of the peoples of our two fraternal countries. The DRA demands that this propaganda and every type of hostile (?act) by the IRI in collusion with the Afghan counterrevolutionaries be halted once and for all. The DRA states that every type of subversive and propaganda activity will have grave consequences for the relations between the DRA and Iranian governments and that the responsibility for such acts rests with the IRI authorities.

Counterrevolutionaries Attack Aybak in Samangan

*LD301704 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT
30 Apr 86*

[Text] Savage counterrevolutionary elements have launched mortars and missiles manufactured in the United States and China, martyring three of our innocent people and wounding a number in Aybak city, Samangan Province. They once again exposed their filthy faces to our toiling people.

Quoting a Sarandoy command spokesman in Samangan Province, a BAKHTAR correspondent reported that as a result of the mortar and missile attack, in addition to damages inflicted on the homes of the citizens of Aybak city and material losses, three of

our innocent compatriots — a 70-year-old man, an old woman and a shopkeeper — were killed, and another 17 people including children, women and elderly people were severely wounded. The wounded were immediately taken to the public health hospital of Samangan Province for treatment.

The toiling people of Aybak city who witnessed this bloody and tragic incident strongly condemned the savage actions of rebels and these real enemies of the sacred religion of Islam and humanity. They curse the perpetrators of the incident and their imperialist masters, led by criminal U.S. imperialism, on whose instructions counterrevolutionary elements engage in terror, murder, the destruction of homes, mosques and public property.

214 Rebels Repent, Surrender to DRA Officials

LD302052 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0430 GMT 30 Apr 86

[Text] Kabul, April 29, (BAKHTAR) — A group of two hundred armed men formerly members of the Jamiyat band along with their ringleaders Assadullah and Samandar have joined to the revolutionary state in Faryab Province and were organized in tribal division.

Availing of the amnesty decree of the state another group of 14 armed persons formerly members of the counterrevolutionary bands have surrendered themselves to the state authorities in the said province.

The armed men and their ringleaders have repented their previous acts against the people and Government of the DRA and have promised to defend the glorious April revolution to the last drops of their blood.

U.S. To Push Aid Program for Afghan Mujahidin

*PM301243 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic
28 Apr 86 p 2*

[Unattributed report: "U.S. Aid Program for Afghan Mujahidin With Participation of Arab and International Sides"]

[Text] Cairo — *AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT* has learned from Egyptian Foreign Ministry sources that a U.S. envoy has recently visited some Arab states to submit to them the program prepared by the U.S. Government for humanitarian aid to the Afghan mujahidin providing for the participation of five other states in the program.

During his tour the U.S. envoy told the officials in these states that the United States looks forward to an Arab role in providing humanitarian aid for the Afghan mujahidin and in finding the best ways to support the Afghan revolution and turn the military victory achieved by the mujahidin into a political victory.

The sources told *AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT* that the U.S. program is based on setting up an alliance of all the mujahidin factions to play a major part in administering the aid program, with the Pakistani Government undertaking the task of coordinating aid and ensuring participation by as many international sides as possible in the program.

Keshtmand's USSR Visit Opens 'New Phase' in Ties
LD302132 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0445 GMT 30 Apr 86

["Press Review"]

[Text] Kabul, April 29, BAKHTAR — The official visit of Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand, Politburo member of the PDPA CC and chairman of the Council of Ministers to the Soviet Union, opened a new phase for the development of friendly relations and fraternal ties between Afghanistan and the Soviet Union, writes daily *HEYWAD* commenting on the result of S.A. Keshtmand's visit to the USSR.

The daily adds that there are over 100 projects functioning under the technical assistance of the Soviet Union. These projects, the daily points out, play a significant role in the consolidation of the national economy. In the first post-revolution socio-economic development plan 130 important projects have been envisaged.

The results of the talks between the Soviet Union and Afghanistan have provided new ground for the implementation of the first post-revolution five year development plan.

HAQIQAT-E ENQELAB-E SAWR writes in its editorial that the visit of the high-ranking Afghan delegation headed by Soltan

'Ali Keshtmand certainly has a determining role in the Afghan-Soviet relations. It can be said with confidence that the ever-further consolidation of the Afghan-Soviet friendly relation play a constructive role in helping the DRA to rebuff the hostile aggressions and the undeclared war which has been waged by the U.S. imperialism and its accomplices against Afghanistan.

The signing of agreements, the daily adds, on economic and trade cooperation enjoys a historical and profound importance. This is especially significant under the conditions when the imperialist and reactionary countries are intensively continuing their undeclared war against the DRA.

The DRA gives a high importance to the question of ensuring security in Asia. To achieve this end, the DRA has set forth positive proposals confirming the Soviet's initiatives on ensuring security in Asia. The state of the DRA believes that the terms agreed between the governments of Afghanistan and the Soviet Union about the stage-by-stage withdrawal of the limited military contingents of the Soviet Union from Afghanistan, provided a political solution is reached terminating any kind of armed intervention into the internal affairs of the DRA, is of paramount significance.

AFP: President Bans Anti-Election Protests*BK300808 Hong Kong AFP in English 0751 GMT 30 Apr 86*

[Text] Dhaka, April 30 (AFP) — Bangladesh's military regime has banned all activity aimed at disrupting next month's general elections and reportedly censored news of a rally held Tuesday to promote a boycott of the polls.

The official BSS news agency said that President Hussain Mohammad Ershad issued the order banning anti-poll actions late Tuesday. Newspapers said Wednesday that 31 people had been arrested for anti-election protests.

Some 10,000 people, according to witnesses, gathered to hear opposition members led by the Bangladesh National Party (BNP) call for resistance to the May 7 parliamentary polls and a general strike three days before. BNP chief Begum Khaleda Zia, spearhead of the seven-party alliance, told the slogan-shouting demonstrators in Baitul Mukarram Square that the elections should be opposed at any cost. "The polls are being held under a blueprint prepared by the military regime at the instigation of a neighbouring country," Mrs Zia said. She did not name the country. She also made what was seen as a veiled call to the army to step into stop the polls, urging the military "not to remain silent when the national interest is at stake."

Crowds later marched through the city streets and reportedly had minor skirmishes with pro-election government supporters. Newspapers here Wednesday failed to carry any reports about the rally, and journalistic sources said that a blackout on all anti-poll activities had been ordered.

National elections in Bangladesh have been postponed three times during the four years of Lieutenant General Ershad's martial law rule because of boycott threats.

While some groups still see the polls as a meaningless exercise under the current military regime, some major opposition parties have agreed to participate in the May 7 elections. The Bangladesh Awami League, the country's largest political party, and at least seven of its allies in the opposition 15-party alliance are taking part in the elections to choose a new 300-seat parliament.

Lt Gen Ershad has promised that his government would be neutral in the voting, and pledged that he would lift martial law and restore the country's suspended constitution soon after the polls.

Opposition Leader Arrested*BK010526 Hong Kong AFP in English 0515 GMT 1 May 86*

[Text] Dhaka, May 1 (AFP) — The Bangladesh military regime has arrested anti-election activists, including opposition leader

Khaleda Zia in a nationwide swoop, political sources said here Thursday.

A senior aide of Mrs. Zia confirmed to AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE Thursday that the leader of the Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) and the opposition seven-party alliance had been arrested late Wednesday.

At least five other leading party figures were detained with the BNP leader, party sources said.

The BNP and seven-party alliance have been campaigning for a boycott of general elections due to be held next Wednesday, because they say free and fair elections cannot be held under martial law.

Other opposition groups have agreed to take part in the elections.

The military regime of Lieutenant Hussain Mohammad Ershad Wednesday banned all activity aimed at disrupting the polls.

A special assistant to Mrs. Zia, barrister Rafiqul Islam, told AFP Thursday that police intercepted her motorcade at Kaliakair, about 45 kilometers (28 miles) from here late Wednesday.

She was returning to the city after addressing a public meeting at the northern town of Jamalpur, some 150 kilometers (100 miles) from here.

At least five other top leaders of the party accompanying Mrs. Zia were also detained and taken to the nearby Tongi police station, party sources said.

They said they did not know where Mrs. Zia was.

Relatives at her home confirmed that Mrs. Zia had been arrested but said that they had not been informed of her whereabouts.

Awami League Files Petition Against Ershad*BK300314 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 30 Apr 86*

[Text] In Bangladesh, the Election Commission has admitted a petition by the Awami League led 8-party opposition alliance which accused President Ershad of violating representation of people's order.

The petition alleged that President Ershad indulged in electioneering in pro-government Jyotia Party and thereby misused his official position to influence the results of the election.

Sunday has been fixed for the hearing.

Continuing Reportage on Situation at Golden Temple**Home Minister Reports to Lok Sabha**

*BK301442 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1430 GMT
30 Apr 86*

[Text] The home minister, Mr Narasimha Rao, informed the Lok Sabha a short while ago that curfew has been imposed on the walled city of Amritsar and around the Golden Temple complex from 1700 today.

The Punjab police and the central Reserve Police Force have entered the Guru Ram Das Sarai, Guru Nanak Niwas, and the Akal Rest House [buildings situated in the Golden Temple compound]. Searches are going on, and some persons have been taken into custody. Mr Rao gave this information while intervening in the special discussion on the situation in Punjab. The discussion is in progress.

Further Details

*BK301521 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT
30 Apr 86*

[Text] The home minister, Mr Narasimha Rao, informed the Lok Sabha this evening that curfew has been imposed in the walled city of Amritsar and around the Golden Temple complex from 1700 today. The Punjab police and the Central Reserve Police Force have entered the Guru Ram Das Sarai, Guru Nanak Niwas, and Akal Rest House [buildings situated in the Golden Temple compound]. Searches are going on and some persons have been taken into custody. Mr Rao gave this information while intervening in the special discussion on the situation in Punjab.

Later replying to the discussion, the home minister said the use of holy places for unholy purposes is a serious matter. Such a thing happened in the past. It has happened again. The operation undertaken today should be an object lesson to those who believe that destabilization is the name of the game. He said all political parties, communities, parliament and the people of India are solidly behind the Punjab government to deal with the situation. Mr Rao underlined the need to keep the atmosphere in the country free from rancor. Mr Rao welcomed the statement of Mr Barnala yesterday who came up unequivocally against the secessionist forces and followed it up with firm action. He said the first thing the prime minister did yesterday on hearing about the development in Amritsar was to contact personally all the chief ministers who were in New Delhi for the National Development Council meeting. Mr Rajiv Gandhi told them to take vigorous measures in their states so that no untoward incident took place.

Members from all sides of the House asked the government to confront and crush the protagonists of so-called Khalistan who are out to destroy the unity and integrity of the country. Taking part in a special discussion on the subject they called for a fight to the finish to totally wipe out terrorists and the secessionist forces in Punjab. The members described the announcement of so-called Khalistan as a grand plan engineered by a foreign power to destabilize India. Initiating the discussion, Mr Indrajit Gupta, Communist Party of India, said what is called for at this moment is police action against these forces. He warned that if the Center

and the Punjab government do not act now, the situation will further deteriorate and grow out of their hands.

Earlier in the day, the home minister declared that the announcement of so-called Khalistan by a small group of people styling themselves as the Panthic [Sikh religious] committee is a grave matter and government is determined to deal with it sternly. Mr Narasimha Rao said in both Houses of Parliament today that no part of our territory will be allowed to be used for secessionist activities. He said in a statement that the Punjab government is pursuing firm action and the Center is in constant touch with it. The Center is extending to the state government all the assistance and support that it require. Mr Rao noted that the anti-national act by the group which made the announcement from the Golden Temple complex in Amritsar yesterday has been denounced by Sikh leaders.

Replying to points raised by members in the Rajya Sabha, the home minister said the law and order authority knows how many people are involved in the anti-national act and the arms and ammunition that they have. Mr Rao said the government fully shares the concern voiced by members. Reports being received show that these concerns are being taken care of. There is no question of any complacency. In fact, the government decided to err on the safe side although it meant giving disproportionate importance to a minuscule group. Members expressed their grave concern at the developments and voiced their conviction that some foreign powers are behind it. They called for strong action against secessionists. They said this is not a party matter as it concerns the unity and integrity of India. All secular forces should unite and mobilize the people against the extremists.

In the Lok Sabha, immediately after the home minister's statement the speaker, Mr Bal Ram Jakhar, held a meeting in his chamber with the minister and opposition leaders.

The Akali Dal parliamentary party has condemned the anti-national and unpatriotic action of separatist forces. In a statement made in New Delhi today, it expressed the party's faith in the preservation of the country's unity and integrity. The former Punjab chief minister and senior Akali Dal-Longowal leader, Mr Prakash Singh Badal, today described the declaration as shocking and against the interests of Sikhs.

Situation 'Normal'

*BK010157 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0145 GMT
1 May 86*

[Text] The Punjab police and the Central Reserve Police completed their task in the Golden Temple this morning. Several people were arrested there. The situation is now normal.

200 Arrested, 1 Killed

*BK010323 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT
1 May 86*

[Text] The operation to flush out anti-national and antisocial elements from the Golden Temple complex launched last evening by the state police and the state security forces was completed

early this morning. An official spokesman in Chandigarh said about 70 persons, including Bhai Gurdev Singh who had gone into the Harminder Saheb [Golden Temple complex], were requested time and again through the public address system to surrender. Bhai Gurdev Singh was nominated the acting chief of the Akal Takht [seat of Sikh religion] by Damdami Taksal [Sikh religious educational institute] and the All India Sikh Students Federation-sponsored congregation during January this year.

The spokesman said they ultimately surrendered at about 0500 this morning. He said in all about 100 persons were rounded up from the Golden Temple and the Parikrama [holiest shrine] area, raising the total number of persons apprehended during the operation to about 200. Some arms and ammunition have also been seized during the operation.

The spokesman categorically stated no personnel of the security forces went beyond darshani dhyoudi [door leading to Holiest Shrine]. Screening of the persons rounded up was immediately started and those not connected with any crimes are being released. The spokesman said one person is reported killed and two injured in the entire operation.

Police Chief Comments on Raid

**BK010935 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT
1 May 86**

[Text] In Punjab, normalcy has been restored after the state police and paramilitary forces completed their task of flushing out extremists and criminals from the Golden Temple complex in Amritsar early this morning. The director general of the Punjab police, Mr J.F. Ribeiro, told newsmen in Amritsar today that the forces are now surveying the surroundings of the temple complex. He said that about 300 persons were rounded up from the complex; they will be screened. The innocent, pilgrims and sevadas [devotees] will be released. The curfew clamped as a precautionary measure in some areas in the vicinity of the complex is continuing.

Giving details of the action, Mr Ribeiro said the police and paramilitary forces first surrounded the buildings on the side of Guru Ram Das Sarai [inn]. The pilgrims were asked to come out and about 120 persons came out. A large number of people went inside Harmandir Saheb [main shrine]. The forces however did not enter Harmandir Saheb and remained in the Parikrama [area surrounding the shrine] only where they went bare-footed and with heads covered. Those inside the Harmandir Saheb surrendered early this morning. They were led by Bhai Gurdev Singh, who was appointed acting chief of the Akal Takht [highest seat of Sikh religion] by the Damdami Taksal [Sikh religious educational institution] and the AISSF [All India Sikh Students Federation]-sponsored congregation on the 26th of January. Mr Ribeiro said the main objective of the operation was to flush out extremists. He disclosed that the action was started simultaneously at two other gurdwaras — Saheb Baba Deep Singh, Amritsar, and Sri Durbar Saheb, Tarn Taran.

During the operations, some arms and ammunition were also recovered. As reported earlier, one person was killed and two were injured in the entire operation. The All India Radio cor-

respondent, Amrik Singh Virke, reports after a visit to the Golden Temple that kirtan [recitation from holy book] is on and a serene atmosphere prevails throughout the holy complex. The sevadas are doing their duties.

Meanwhile, the state government's action has been widely welcomed. Jathedar of Takht of Sri Kesgarh Saheb, Mr Harcharan Singh Mahlon, has said that by clearing the Golden Temple of anti-Panthic [anti-Sikh religious] elements, Mr Surjit Singh Barnala has complied with the directives contained in the resolution adopted at the Sarbat Khalsa [highest Sikh religious congregational assembly] at the Anandpur Saheb on February 16th this year. In a statement issued today, Mr Mahlon said that Mr Barnala has restored the sanctity of the Golden Temple for which the Sikh sangat [community] is grateful to him.

The convenor of the All India Sikh Forum, Lieutenant General Jagjit Singh Arora, has welcomed the operation at the Golden Temple complex to flush out the extremists. Congratulating the Punjab chief minister, Mr Surjit Singh Barnala, for the effective and expeditious measure he said it is also important that the Shiv Sena [militant Hindu organization] which has raised its communal head in the state be effectively dealt with.

The Bharatiya Janata Party general secretary, Mr L.K. Advani, has welcomed the action. In a statement issued in New Delhi today, he said that yesterday's developments only show that the extremist bluff could have been [curbed] long back if only the government had mastered the requisite will. He also called for urgent steps to weed out the elements in the Punjab police, who, he alleged, are colluding with the extremists. The Gujarat chief minister, Mr Amar Singh Chaudhury, has welcomed the police action to remove the anti-national elements. The speaker of the Jammu and Kashmir legislative assembly and the deputy leader of the Pradesh [state] Congress-I have described the Amritsar action as timely and in the interest of national security.

FRG Chancellor Concludes Visit, Departs 30 Apr

**BK300955 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT
30 Apr 86**

[Text] The chancellor of the Federal Republic of Germany, Dr Helmut Kohl, left New Delhi this morning at the end of his 4-day visit to India. At the airport, he was seen off by the prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, and some of his cabinet colleagues.

While in the capital, Dr Kohl has had discussions with the prime minister on a wide range of subjects.

Further Reportage on Visit of USSR's Arkhipov

Meets With Energy Minister

**BK290353 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT
29 Apr 86**

[Text] The visiting Soviet first deputy prime minister, Mr Arkhipov, called on the energy minister, Mr Vasant Sathe in New Delhi yesterday. Mr Arkhipov said that his country is willing to cooperate with India in the power and coal sectors. Mr Sathe

welcomed bilateral assistance from friendly nations for the development of the power sector.

Cooperation Protocol Signed

*BK291325 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT
29 Apr 86*

[Text] India and the Soviet Union have signed a protocol on increasing and diversifying cooperation in a wide range of sectors — agriculture, irrigation, trade, science and technology, and electronics and computers. The protocol also covers cooperation in ferrous and nonferrous metallurgy, machine building, power, coal, and oil. It was signed at the end of the 10th session of the India-Soviet joint commission for economic, scientific, and technical cooperation in New Delhi today.

The external affairs minister, Mr B.R. Bhagat, and the first deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Soviet Union, Mr Arkhipov, signed the protocol. During the 2-day deliberations of the joint commission, the progress of implementation of various on-going projects was reviewed.

Calls on President

*BK300959 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT
30 Apr 86*

[Text] The first deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Soviet Union, Mr Arkhipov, called on the president, Giani Zail Singh, at Rashtrapati Bhavan [President House] today. The two leaders were together for about 1/2 an hour.

Leaves for Moscow 30 Apr

*BK301400 Delhi General Overseas Service in English
1330 GMT 30 Apr 86*

[Text] The first deputy chairman of the Soviet Council of Ministers, Mr Arkhipov, left New Delhi for Moscow today after his 4-day official visit to India.

Mr Arkhipov, who cochaired the 10th session of the Indo-Soviet joint commission in the capital, was given a warm send-off by the external affairs minister, Mr Bhagat.

Talking to newsmen, both Mr Arkhipov and Mr Bhagat expressed satisfaction with their talks and the outcome of the joint commission meeting.

High-Level Delegation Leaves for Sri Lanka Talks

*BK290935 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT
29 Apr 86*

[Text] The 4-member Indian delegation to Sri Lanka for talks on the ethnic issue left for Colombo this morning. The minister of state for personnel and administrative reforms, Mr Chidambaram, is leading the delegation. It includes the former foreign secretary, Mr Romesh Bhandari; a constitution expert, Mr Balakrishnan; and the deputy secretary in the External Affairs Ministry, Mr Ranjan Mathai.

The delegation will hold talks with President Jayewardene and other government leaders. It is also expected to meet the leader of the Sri Lankan Freedom Party, Mrs Sirimavo Bandaranaike.

Protest Lodged With DRA Over Artillery Firing
BK301529 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT
30 Apr 86

[Text] The Afghan forces fired 13 artillery rounds at 1430 last Monday [28 April] which landed at (Sargai) and (Babarak) villages in the (Charmung) Valley, 15 miles west of Khar in the Bajaur Agency, killing two persons and injuring one child. The Afghan charge d'affaires was summoned to the Foreign Office, and a strong protest was lodged with him over this unprovoked attack.

Peshawar Universities Closed After Death of Student
BK301545 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT
30 Apr 86

[Text] It has been officially stated in Peshawar today that all universities in Peshawar, colleges affiliated with Peshawar University, Khyber Medical College, and all colleges under the Directorate of College Education and Technical Education in Peshawar and Mardan Districts will remain closed until further notice. However, the examinations being conducted by the universities will continue as scheduled.

The chief minister of the North-West Frontier Province, Arbab Mohammad Jahangir Khan, has expressed grief and shock at the death of a student of the local Islamic college. The student was killed in a road accident on Jamrud road in Peshawar today. The chief minister has offered his condolences to the bereaved family.

Opposition Leader Demands Ziaul Haq's Ouster
GF291345 Karachi JASARAT in Urdu 28 Apr 86 p 6

[Text] Rawalpindi, 27 Apr — Me'raj Mohammad Khan, president of the National Liberation Front, has said that President Mohammad Ziaul Haq should resign at once and let the nation decide his fate. He further said that the 1973 Constitution should be revived, elections should be held on a party basis and power transferred to the members elected by the nation.

He was addressing the Rawalpindi bar members today. In his address he said that the CIA was active in Pakistan and efforts are being made to rob us of our independence in the name of

American aid. We will not let them do this under any circumstances. He further said that Bhutto was hanged at U.S. instigation because he was bent upon carrying out the atomic program. They do not allow a people's government in this country. For the last 38 years the country has been run by the Army and the civil bureaucracy. The Army has moved away from its military duties and the country's borders have become unsafe.

Afghanistan Group Denies Having U.S. Missiles
GF291343 Karachi JASARAT in Urdu 28 Apr 86 p 1

[Text] Peshawar 28 Apr — Engineer Gulbuddin Hikmatyar, chairman of the Hezb-e Eslami Afghanistan, addressed a press conference here today. He said: No missiles -- Stringer or any other kind -- have been received by the mujahidin from the United States or from any other country. In any case, Stringer missiles are useless against aircraft and helicopters which the Soviet Union uses in Afghanistan.

Responding to a question on the supply of Stringer missiles by the United States, engineer Hikmatyar said: This propaganda about the United States or any other country supplying the Afghan mujahidin with arms is being carried out by the people linked to the Soviet lobby; they do this to justify the presence of the Soviet forces in Afghanistan. The Soviet Union, he said, claims that there is U.S. interference in Afghanistan and therefore, this war is not against the Afghan mujahidin but against the United States. Gulbuddin continued: The Afghan mujahidin do not receive arms from anybody. They use the arms which they capture from the Soviet forces.

Responding to a question on the Geneva talks he said: We do wish to become victims of wishful thinking. Our stance is that we will never hold talks with the Soviet Union as long as there is even one Soviet soldier in Afghanistan. First, let the entire Soviet force leave Afghanistan and after that if there is any point in dispute, we could hold talks with the Soviet Union. In response to another question on whether there was any plan to ask the Afghan mujahidin to join the talks, he said: Our stance is clear; we will not join any talks until there are no Soviet soldiers in Afghanistan. We do not give anyone the right to select Afghan representatives for the talks. The mujahidin reserve the right to select their own representatives.

SRI LANKA

Reportage on Joint Talks With India on Tamil Issue

Indian Delegate on Proposal

BK300441 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT
30 Apr 86

[Text] The leader of the Indian delegation to Sri Lanka, the minister of state for personnel, Mr P. Chidambaram, has said that the recent Sri Lankan proposal on the ethnic issue is an adequate basis for resumption of dialogue. Speaking to newsmen after arrival in Colombo yesterday he said the latest proposal which the Sri Lankan foreign minister, Mr A.C.S. Hameed, carried in New Delhi recently provided broad parameters for negotiations.

Our Colombo correspondent, Plabon Majumder, reports that they will call on the Sri Lankan president this morning and will have discussions with him. They will also meet the national security minister, Mr Lalith Athulathmudali, and the foreign minister, Mr Hameed, and other leaders.

Rival Tamil Groups Clash

BK301449 Hong Kong AFP in English 1431 GMT 30 Apr 86

[Text] Colombo, April 30 (AFP) — At least 44 people have died in two days of gunfights between two rival Tamil separatist groups, and a showdown appears to be looming, residents in northern Sri Lanka and security sources said. The clashes between the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) and the Tamil Eelam Liberation Organisation (TELO) erupted Tuesday in Jaffna, the northern capital, after a local LTTE leader was abducted by a TELO group, local residents said. The running battles continued Wednesday in new areas in the north, including Kilinochchi, and at least 27 people died Tuesday and 17 Wednesday, the residents said. They could not say which group suffered greater casualties. Small arms, grenades and an assortment of homemade weaponry were used.

The clashes occurred as a four-member Indian team was meeting with Sri Lankan President Junius Jayewardene and other officials in Colombo in a bid to mediate in the Tamil separatist issue. Some 1,500 people have died in related violence in the past 15 months. National Security Minister Lalith Athulathmudali told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE Wednesday that more than 25 people had died in Tuesday's fighting. He said that some civilians could be among them.

Residents said that LTTE "hit squads" fanned out Tuesday on the peninsula in search of TELO leader Sri Sabaratnam, who is believed to have come across earlier from southern India to his village Tellipallai in Jaffna District. Well-informed sources said

that LTTE chief Velupillai Prabhakaran had radioed a message from his base in southern India, ordering his men to execute the TELO leader. Residents said that they were not certain why the TELO had abducted the LTTE member, sparking the clashes.

The national security minister said that the kidnapping appeared to part of a tussle for power in the movement of minority Tamils seeking a separate state in the north and east of this Sinhala-dominated country.

Earlier this week, the TELO ordered a demonstration to protest against the killing of seven of its members by the security forces. The LTTE demonstrated in Jaffna on Tuesday to protest against the killing of six of its members, including one of its district leaders, by the navy in the northern waters off the Jaffna peninsula, Mr. Athulathmudali said. He said that the protest demonstrations could have triggered the factional war.

Residents said that civilians in the north were living in fear as they expected a major clash to erupt soon. "The people are afraid that they might be caught in the middle if the rival groups start fighting it out," said one resident. Earlier this year, the LTTE clashed with another militant group, the Eelam People's Revolutionary Liberation Front (EPRLF). Eight militants from both groups were killed in three separate incidents. Last month, TELO and one of its splinter groups shot it out at the Jaffna hospital, killing a magistrate and a hospital nurse among others. Meanwhile, two policemen and a soldier were killed in northeastern Trincomalee District on Tuesday when militants blew up their vehicle with a landmine, security sources said.

President Meets With Indian Delegation

BK301630 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT
30 Apr 86

[Text] The Indian delegation visiting Sri Lanka today had a detailed exchange of views with the Sri Lankan president, Mr Jayewardene, on the entire range of pending issues on the ethnic problem in the island. The leader of the delegation and the minister of state for personnel [and administrative reforms], Mr P. Chidambaram, was assisted at the talks by the former foreign secretary, Mr Romesh Bhandari; and the Indian high commissioner in Sri Lanka, Mr J.N. Dixit. They were with the president for over 3 and 1/2 hours. They later met the national security minister, Mr Lalith Athulathmudali; the foreign minister, Mr A.C.S. Hameed; and the Sri Lanka Freedom Party leader, Mrs Srimavo Bandaranaike.

Mr Chidambaram and Mr Bhandari also met a large number of leaders of various political parties and some important members of the Sri Lankan Cabinet at a dinner hosted by Mr Dixit.

KUNA: Iran-Iraq Agree To Negotiate on Ending War
LD011236 Kuwait KUNA in English 1223 GMT 1 May 86

[Text] Kuwait, May 1 (KUNA) — Iraq and Iran agreed to negotiate a settlement to end the six-year Gulf war, Radio Rabat announced. The broadcast monitored by KUNA, said differences on a ceasefire procedure still exist, but United Nations Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar is quoted by the radio as saying the negotiations will center on eight points. The U.N. secretary general said, according to the broadcast, the nature of the eight points are not yet divulged.

Further Details

LD011337 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 1325 GMT 1 May 86

[Text] Iraq and Iran have provisionally accepted the agenda for direct negotiations between them to end the war. However, they have failed to agree on the cease-fire arrangements. Announcing this, the UN secretary general affirmed that the agenda of the Iraq-Iran talks will center on eight points, but he did not reveal what they were. He said that he will try to persuade Iran to encourage the UN efforts to bring peace to the Gulf. Tehran has been opposing the UN Security Council's resolution to end the war with Iraq.

'No Increase' in Radioactivity Levels Reported

LD011250 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 1 May 86

[Text] According to a Central News Unit report, despite sensational reporting by foreign news media about an incident which occurred in one of the reactors at the Chernobyl nuclear power station near Kiev in the Ukraine in the Soviet Union, the Iranian Atomic Energy Organization, the unit for protection against radioactivity, announced: Fortunately, after investigations and based on the measurement results, it is clear that there has been no increase in the level of radioactivity in the atmosphere. Such investigations and measurements are currently continuing by this organization's experts in various parts of the country. In general, on the basis of the practical and theoretical experiments carried out so far, there is no cause for anxiety whatsoever among our people.

Majlis Speaker Reaffirms Importance of Persian Gulf

LD010642 Tehran IRNA in English 0620 GMT 1 May 86

[Text] Tehran, May 1, IRNA — Majlis Speaker Hojjat ol-Islam Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani said here Wednesday that the Persian Gulf and Strait of Hormuz were vital not only for Iran but for the whole world. Rafsanjani, addressing a group of officials of naval and ground units of the Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps, stressed: "If Iran is actively present in the Persian Gulf it can protect the region and thwart all plots." The Majlis speaker, who is also Imam Khomeyni's representative to the Supreme Defense Council, added that the superpowers might easily confront equipments they had produced but were unable to face the will of the nations.

Elsewhere in his speech Rafsanjani stressed that no one could dictate to the Islamic Republic of Iran to fight, make peace or accept or reject certain conditions due to the self-sufficiency in combat forces and equipment Iran had acquired during the Iraqi-imposed war. Reiterating the importance of the Persian Gulf, the Majlis speaker said that vital Iranian ports in this region should be fully protected. The group, together their families, met with Prime Minister Hoseyn Musavi Wednesday noon.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani Message to May Day Gathering

LD011113 Tehran IRNA in English 1107 GMT 01 May 86

[Text] Tehran, May 1, IRNA — Thousands of Iranian workers in military uniforms and comprising 15 divisions paraded in the streets of the capital and later gathered at Martyr Shiroudi Stadium to celebrate the International Labour Day, May 1. In an inaugural message from Majlis Speaker Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani which was read to the gathering, it was stressed that the Islamic revolution of Iran gave a new credit to labour and workers. The message said that workers were the backbone of the Islamic Republic of Iran and their presence in all cultural, political, social and military fields was a guarantee for its strengthening and determining role in confronting international arrogance and in preserving the achievements of the Islamic revolution of Iran.

Similar meetings were reported from other Iranian cities where workers paraded and issued communiques in support of the war effort and condemnation of superpower designs against the Islamic Republic.

Musavi Calls for USSR Withdrawal From Afghanistan

LD011203 Tehran IRNA in English 1112 GMT 1 May 86

[Excerpt] Tehran, May 1, IRNA — Prime Minister Hoseyn Musavi here Thursday referred to reports on the recent Soviet agreement for a time-tabled withdrawal of its forces from Afghanistan and said, "the authenticity of this report will make us happy." The prime minister who was speaking at the Thursday's session of the Political Council of the government, said no accurate information about the report was yet available. He said the Islamic Republic of Iran, either in private talks or at international organizations, had already declared its views on a solution to the Afghan issue. The prime minister stressed that the Afghan people desired the establishment of a system based on the will of the Muslim people of that country which would be in the interest of the Soviet Union and regional states. The new system in Afghanistan could cease U.S. pretext for interfering and committing aggression in the region, Musavi said.

On possible British cooperation with the U.S. for taking measures against the Islamic Republic of Iran, the prime minister noted that Britain had been involved, directly or indirectly, in all crimes committed in Iran during the past few centuries. He stressed that the Islamic Revolution of Iran is not a regional power but rather an international power which could give an appropriate response both to the British and the Americans all over the world.

Commentary on Further U.S. Attacks

*GF301324 Tehran International Service in Arabic
1430 GMT 30 Apr 86*

[From the "Political Followup" program]

[Text] Robert (Koferman), an expert on anti-U.S. acts, has declared that if the Americans attacked Iran, they would encounter thousands of suicide attacks by people who believe in a better life in paradise. Such attacks cannot be imagined. REUTERS has quoted statements by U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz in which he denied the possibility of executing such an attack on the Islamic Republic. The denial by the U.S. secretary of state follows reckless threats by the U.S. President against the Islamic Republic. Some implicit threats against the Iran of Islam were made before by U.S. officials in their capacity as experts. They believe that imposing a blockade on Iranian ports and adopting collective measures by the United States and its allies — such as boycotting Iran in shipping and air transport — are considered less dangerous than a military offensive by U.S. forces against the Islamic territories.

The Islamic Republic has declared through statements by the Majlis speaker and the representative of the leader Imam Khomeini in the Supreme Defense Council that the United States will certainly learn the meaning of terror if the threats of directing a military blow against Iran are executed. The threats by the U.S. President himself means that the United States has clearly been disappointed. The U.S. Administration lost its senses and began making threats through the U.S. President, thus surpassing all international traditions and norms, which deplore such threats from the leader of the world's greatest power. The following should be noted:

First, we must note that if the United States is capable of toppling the Islamic Republic, it would not hesitate to do so. The United States failed in this field and its plots failed too. Therefore, it began using propaganda in this shameful manner. This is not appropriate with the international pride and reputation of the United States.

Second, such threats embody the U.S. bitterness after the failure of the Ba'thist aggression against the Islamic Republic and after the United States became certain that its Zionist ally in Iraq is today on the brink of falling.

Third, had the air and sea blockade of Iran been useful in accomplishing the U.S. dreams, the United States would not have hesitated to use it as pressure against the Islamic Republic a long time ago.

Fourth, the United States received insulting blows from the Islamic revolution over the blessed years of the revolution. If the United States has not learned enough lessons and is still living in its arrogance — which may make it commit another foolish act against the Islamic Republic of Iran — then the United States will pay doubly for the insanity of Reagan in a manner that will end U.S. prestige. Perhaps the U.S. peacock looked at his image in the mirror and was satisfied with its wings of financial capabilities of which the White House is proud in the air, at sea, and on land. But the U.S. peacock forgot that the Iranian people and

supporters of the Islamic revolution all over the world will teach the world that financial capabilities, no matter how great, are of little value to an individual who does not care about death, but seeks it in the defense of his Islamic belief, present and future.

If the United States imagines that its armed forces are capable of making some regimes and governments kneel, it is incapable of encroaching on the pride of a nation that believed in God, the prophet Muhammad, Islam, and martyrdom as the means for salvation and liberation.

PDRY Prime Minister Voices Support; Condemns Iraq

*LD010359 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT
30 Apr 86*

[Text] PDRY Prime Minister Haydar Abu Bakr 'al-'Attas met today with the ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Aden in connection with the imposed Iraqi war against Iran. He said: We condemned from the start the country that began the war, and this is our fixed and principled stance. We will stand by the Islamic Republic of Iran until the end.

In connection with the U.S. aggression against Libya, he remarked: This aggression is not solely directed against Libya but against all progressive forces. The PDRY prime minister described the objectives of the United States in carrying out this plot as creating divisions between progressive forces.

Noting that the PDRY, the Islamic Republic of Iran and the rest of the progressive countries are enemies of imperialism and its leader-country, the United States, he stressed: We stand beside the people of Iran in our support for the resistance of the Libyan people.

Abu Bakr al-'Attas, while referring to the depth of historical relationships between the PDRY and Iran, stated: On behalf of the people of the PDRY, I thank the Muslim people of Iran for their donations. It is noteworthy that our country has donated medical and food aids to the Muslim people of South Yemen.

Iraq Expels Egyptians for Refusing To Help War Effort

*LD010913 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT
1 May 86*

[Text] The regime ruling over Iraq is facing acute an economic crisis and a manpower shortage, and has therefore increased pressure on its guest workers — subjects of other Arab countries living in Iraq — to take part in the war against the forces of Islam.

A reliable source of the Iraqi Muslim revolutionaries contacted the Central News Unit in Urumiyeh and stated that in order to implement this policy, Saddam's bankrupt regime has ordered all Egyptian Muslims living in Iraq to be deported because they refuse to participate in the war.

On the basis of this order, carried out by Saddam's security system, the Egyptian Muslims are not allowed to take out more than 40 Iraqi dinars.

Kharrazi Discusses Release of Iraqi POW's

*LD010008 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT
30 Apr 86*

[Text] Supervisor of the War Information Headquarters Kharrazi this afternoon gave an all-media interview with the participation of local and foreign reporters on the publicity plots of global arrogance aimed at distorting the image of the Islamic Revolution.

Kharrazi said: Every year on the eve of the blessed month of Ramadan [11 May-8 June this year] and as Al-Quds day [6 June this year] approaches, global arrogance begins to disseminate all sorts of plots aimed at misleading the opinions of the Muslim people of the region and the world. This year, however, the plots started coming earlier, and we are certain that they will increase in the future. Referring to the shared sympathies of the United States and the region's reactionaries, Kharrazi stated: All these efforts are aimed at diluting two distinct aspects of the Islamic Republic, namely, its anti-imperialist and anti-Zionist aspects. It is with this motivation that the rumor has been spread about the purchase by the Islamic Republic of Iran of \$2.5 billion worth of weapons from the United States, about the alleged Israeli role in this.

There is also the VOA report on the mistreating the Iraqi prisoners of war in Iran; it cites a former Iraqi POW. This concocted VOA report has no real documentation. Meanwhile, thousands of reliable documents exist showing that wounded Iranian POW's have been killed and that other Iranian POW's have received very poor and inhumane treatment. These documents which we have acquired from the battlefronts are ignored.

In conclusion, the supervisor of the War Information Headquarters said the following in connection with the inspection of Iran in POW camps by Red Cross delegations: If the Red Cross were to correct its earlier biased reports, there would be no obstacles to the inspection of the camps by Red Cross representatives.

In connection with the release of POW's, Kharrazi stated: We have released disabled POW's, even unilaterally, and at one point we declared that we are prepared for an extensive exchange of this category of POW's, but Iraq has not responded.

Iraqi Muslims Blow Up Ammunition Dump

*LD291913 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT
29 Apr 86*

[Text] Following an attack launched by Iraqi Muslim revolutionaries, a large ammunition dump of the Saddamist army in the Sa'd Garrison in the city of Ba'qubah was blown up and burned for 3 days.

According to a Central News Unit report, the Arabic-language weekly *AL-JIHAD*, giving the above report, added the following about the position of the garrison: The Sa'd Garrison was the headquarters of the 6th Mechanized Brigade of the Saddamist army but after the deployment of the brigade's troops on the

Mandali and Khanaqin front it became as a supply center and ammunition dump.

Reportage on Combat Operations in War With Iraq**Eastern Iraq Bombed 28 Apr**

LD281057 Tehran IRNA in English 1048 GMT 28 Apr 86

[Text] Tehran, April 28, IRNA — The Iranian fighter-bombers in an operation early this morning attacked concentration centers of the Iraqi armored forces in north west of Zobeidah, eastern Iraq, with coordinates 32.27 degrees north and 47.10 degrees east, a Joint Staff communique said here. According to the communique the Iranian pilots after inflicting heavy losses and damages on Iraqi forces returned safely to their bases.

Meanwhile the Khatam ol-Anbiya' Headquarters in a statement Monday said that the Islamic forces of Iran crushed any attempted counterattack of the Iraqi forces in Majnun Islands Sunday night and Monday morning, killing hundreds of Iraqi forces and destroying or setting ablaze large amount of enemy munition.

The Iraqi regime has assigned large number of its forces including the 31st Army and brigades from its marine and ground forces. However, the Islamic forces of Iran halted any move of the Iraqi forces and, assisted by a heavy storm, totally smashed the Iraqi forces. The area is littered by the corpses of the personnel of the wiped out 31 divisions and the smoke of the burning Iraqi munition has filled the area. The statement added that the Islamic forces of Iran destroyed two Iraqi frigates and all its munition as well as several enemy bunkers.

IRNA Reporters Visit Al-Faw Area

LD301148 Tehran IRNA in English 1056 GMT 30 Apr 86

[Text] Al-Faw, April 30, IRNA — The large plain on Al-Faw-Basra axis and northern side of the Val-Fajr-8 operational theater on Salt Lake axis witnessed an epic created by Islamic combatants of Iran whose braveries are beyond expectation of military experts.

A group of IRNA reporters on Wednesday visited the operational theater of the Monday night attack which was launched in continuation of the victorious Val-Fajr-8 offensive. Upon their arrival to the area, they witnessed the downing of an Iraqi helicopter shot down before attacking Islamic forces of Iran. The reporters later inspected strategic strongholds seized by the Iranian forces. Lightning attack on the Iraqi troops did not allow the fleeing forces to even take their rifles with them.

A commander of the Islamic Forces of Iran told IRNA reporters that the Monday attack has no precedent in classic wars in the world. He stressed that the attack was carried out in an area which is limited to the salt lake on one side and to a vast plain on the other.

The Islamic combatants of Iran inflicted heavy casualties and damage on the Iraqi forces, including the smashing of the 702

commando brigade. The forces of Islam have established their positions in the liberation areas and are fully checking any movement by the Iraqi enemy.

Communique No 2,456

LD301750 Tehran IRNA in English 1731 GMT 30 Apr 86

[Text] Tehran, April 30, IRNA — An Iraqi warplane was downed by Iranian anti-aircraft fire in the northern part of the Persian Gulf at 01:07 hours local time Wednesday (21:37 GMT Tuesday), according to a military communique here Wednesday.

Communique number 2456 of the Joint Staff Command of the Armed Forces said that three commercial ships were stopped and searched Tuesday by the patrol units of the Islamic Republic's Navy in the Strait of Hormuz. It added that the ships were released after it was found they were carrying no Iraqi bound goods.

Iraqi war planes bombed the village of Rahimabad near the city of Bekhtaran at 18:40 hours local time (15:10 GMT) Tuesday, the communique said. One child was martyred and 40 others wounded as a result of the inhuman attack, it added. The communique said that exchange of artillery and mortar fire continued in western operational regions being somewhat more intense in Kani-Sheikh and Mehran regions.

In southern fronts, the communique said, exchange of heavy weapons fire was traded which was more intense in the regions of Zobeydah, Sharhani, Southern Majnun Island, Talayeh as well as Hoseyniyeh. Meanwhile, the city of Abadan Khuzestan Province, was subjected to the enemy's long-range artillery fire, as a result of which some houses and buildings were damaged.

Khatam ol-Anbiya' HQ on Iraqi Losses

LD301820 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 30 Apr 86

[Text] The Khatam ol-Anbiya' Headquarters, the joint operational center of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, reports that a relentless battle is being continued by Islam's combatants, who are being blessed with the help of God Almighty. While guarding

and consolidating the positions that they have conquered in the past 2 days in the "Val-Fajr-8" operational theater, our forces succeeded in utterly destroying large numbers of enemy forces, including the 2d Battalion of the 20th Mechanized Brigade and several battalions of the 2d Division of the Iraqi Army.

During today's operations by Islam's combatants hundreds of troops of the aggressor enemy were killed, and the Saddamist forces suffered heavy losses and were forced to flee from the operational area on the strategic Al-Faw-Basra motorway. Two of their command headquarters on the Al-Faw-Basra axis were completely encircled by Islam's forces today. Islam's troops destroyed the forces stationed in those headquarters, captured a number of them and completely occupied the said headquarters.

Iraqi Armored Forces Hit

LD010657 Tehran IRNA in English 0650 GMT 1 May 86

[Text] Tehran, May 1, IRNA — Iranian fighter bombers hit positions and concentration centers of the Iraqi armored forces in Faqqeh operational theater, southern front, at 06:55 local time (03:25 GMT) Thursday morning. A joint staff communique released here said that in this attack heavy casualties and damage were inflicted on the Iraqi enemy. All the Iranian fighter bombers returned to their bases safely after successfully carrying out their mission, the communique added.

Further Details

LD010854 Tehran IRNA in English 0847 GMT 1 May 86

[Text] Tehran, May 1, IRNA — Iranian fighter-bombers for the second time Thursday bombed Iraqi positions and fortifications in Faqqeh operational theater in southern front, a Joint Staff communique said here. The second attack was carried out at 10:10 hours local time Thursday morning following the first one at 06:55 hours local time, the communique added. In these attacks, the Iranian fighter bombers inflicted heavy casualties and damage on the Iraqi forces and all returned to their bases safely, the communique said.

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

2 MAY 1986

Postponement of Arab Summit

The Arab foreign minister's failure to set a date, venue, and agenda for a summit conference is a "terrible failure" which expresses the Arab states' inability to confront the United States, Tripoli radio asserted 2 May. The Libyan comment followed Rabat radio's announcement the previous evening that the foreign ministers would attempt to fix the date and agenda for a summit at another meeting in Morocco after Ramadan, which ends 8 June. A communique broadcast by the radio said the decision was made after it became clear that subjects for the summit agenda are in need of "more study, close examination, preparation, consultation, and exchange of views."

Iran-Iraq War

Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq 'Aziz denied reports attributed to the UN secretary general that Iraq and Iran have agreed to begin direct negotiations to end the war, according to Amman radio. The Iraqi denial, which has not thus far been mentioned by monitored Iraqi sources, followed a Rabat radio report on the UN secretary general's announcement that Iran and Iraq have "provisionally accepted" an eight-point agenda for direct negotiations though they have failed to agree on cease-fire arrangements.

As for the military situation, military communiques cited by IRNA reported further Iranian air strikes on Iraqi positions in the Faqqeh region, inside Iran's Khuzestan Province. Iraqi planes raided Iranian oil-pumping stations at Ahvaz, according to a communique broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio. Regarding the situation in the Al-Faw area, Iraq's VII Army Corps commander asserted at a news conference reported by INA that his troops "completely destroyed" an Iranian offensive west of Al-Mamlahah 28-29 April.

In the Gulf, an unidentified aircraft fired missiles at a Saudi tanker 1 May, killing the captain and two sailors, and injuring six others, according to an official source in Abu Dhabi cited by WAM.

Bahrain-Qatar Dispute

Saudi King Fahd has succeeded in containing the Bahraini-Qatari maritime border dispute in a way that "preserves the interests of the two fraternal countries as a first step," a Saudi spokesman disclosed in an official statement transmitted by SPA. He said the Kingdom will also seek to establish a joint agreement between the two countries covering other disputed issues.

Iranian Delegation's Tour

A joint statement at the end of the Iranian delegation's visit to Libya warned the United States that Libya, Iran, and the "Islamic masses" will resist any "new aggression" against the

Jamahiriyyah. The statement, which was carried by JANA, also urged European countries to cancel their "aggressive measures" against Libya, rejected accusations of Libyan and Iranian involvement in terrorism, and urged Muslims worldwide to "kindle their jihad fervor" to confront the "10th crusade" being led by the United States.

The Iranian delegation held talks with President Hafiz al-Asad and other Syrian officials in Damascus 1 May, IRNA noted.

Syrian Internal Differences

The clandestine Radio Free Lebanon reported that Major General 'Ali Haydar is under house arrest following his "open criticism" of Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam's policy on Lebanon. The radio spoke of "tension and rebellion" in the special units which Haydar commands.

Southern Lebanon

The army of southern Lebanon (ASL) commander has ordered a reinforcement of ASL positions on the border of Israel's security zone following a "large terrorist attack" on an ASL position 1 May, Jerusalem radio reported. IDF radio noted that three ASL soldiers were kidnapped, five were wounded, and one terrorist was killed in the attack, which occurred in the southwestern Al-Biq'a area. The Islamic Resistance claimed credit for attacking ASL positions in the area in a statement cited by Beirut radio.

PLO

A PLO delegation headed by Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat informed FLN officials in Algiers of the PLO Executive Committee's "unanimous" agreement to the Algerian president's proposal for a "comprehensive dialogue" among all Palestinian revolution factions at a conference aimed at "closing the Palestinian ranks," Algiers radio reported.

Egypt

Dr 'Umar 'Abd al-Rahman is one of 56 members of an "extremist Muslim group" who were arrested in connection with the attempt to "storm" a mosque in Aswan 29 April, MENA reported. Al-Rahman, who was described by MENA as a professor at the Foundations of Islam College in Asyut, has been arrested on several previous occasions because of his links with Muslim fundamentalist groups.

Afghanistan

DRA Revolutionary Council President Babrak Karmal returned home 1 May after medical check-ups in the Soviet Union, Kabul radio reported, adding that Karmal was welcomed at Kabul Airport by PDPA and Soviet officials.

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Karmal Returns From USSR; Met by Soviet Envoy
*LD011546 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1600 GMT
1 May 86*

[Text] Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and president of the DRA Revolutionary Council, returned home today at about 1600 by special aircraft after medical check-ups in the Soviet Union. He was welcomed at Kabul International Airport by members and secretaries of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and the Soviet ambassador and representative extraordinary in Kabul, F.A. Tabeyev.

Ratebzad Returns From WPC Meeting in Sofia
*LD011830 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT
1 May 86*

[Text] Anahita Ratebzad, member of the PDPA Central Committee Political Bureau and chairman of the DRA Peace, Solidarity and Friendship Organization, returned to Kabul today after taking part in the session of World Peace Council in Sofia.

At Kabul airport she was welcomed by Mohammad Aslam Watanjar, member of the PDPA Central Committee Political Bureau and minister of communications, and by Petur Vulkanov, ambassador of Bulgaria in Kabul.

New Plants To End Kabul Power Shortage
LD280600 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0439 GMT 28 Apr 86

[Text] Kabul, April 27, BAKHTAR — Big contracts in power industry between the Ministry of Electric Energy of the Demo-

cratic Republic of Afghanistan and the All-Union [words indistinct] Trade Association Technopromextort have been signed here.

The Afghan side is to be supplied with equipment and materials for building the Mazar-e Sharif Jarkuduk, USSR Konduz and Kholm-Pol-e Khomri electric transmission lines.

A contract was signed for a feasibility study for building the Sarobi-2 Cascade of hydro-electric power stations and for drawing up a project of an electric transmission line crossing over the Panj River.

Cooperation between the USSR and the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan in energetics is broadening with every passing year. The construction of the USSR-Konduz and USSR state frontier Mazar-e Sharif-Kholm electric transmission lines is to be completed this year.

The commissioning of these electric transmission lines will establish mighty centres for the development of industry and agriculture of northern Afghanistan and ensure Konduz, Shir Khan, Mazar-e Sharif and other towns with electricity.

The construction of the Sarobi-2 Cascade of hydro-electric power stations will make it possible to do away with the shortage of electric energy in the area of Kabul.

Afghanistan's biggest hydro-electric power station Naghlu, which increased electricity generation in Afghanistan by 40 per cent, and the Pol-e Khomri-2 hydro-electric power station, the main source of electric energy in the Balkh Province, were built in the previous years with the USSR's assistance.

Further Reportage on Situation at Golden Temple

Gandhi Supports Punjab Government Action

BK011625 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT
1 May 86

[Text] The prime minister has congratulated the Punjab chief minister, Mr Surjit Singh Barnala, for flushing out the extremists from the Golden Temple complex.

Inaugurating the centenary celebrations of Anjuman-e Islam in Bombay this afternoon, he said Mr Barnala has purified the holy place and restored the sanctity of the Golden Temple.

The prime minister said sinister attempts by some fanatics and anti-national elements to weaken the country in the name of religion will not be allowed. The Akali Dal parliamentary party hailed the action and said forcible occupation of the Golden Temple by extremists resulted in grave violation of the glorious Sikh tradition.

The Punjab Pradesh [State] Congress-I Committee president, Mr Beant Singh, urged the Akali Dal and the SGPC [Shiromani Gurdwara Prabandhak Committee] to ensure that terrorists and anti-national elements are not allowed reenter the complex.

The president of Jammu and Kashmir Pradesh Congress-I, Mr Mufti Mohammad Syed, said the integrity and solidarity of the nation cannot be compromised at any cost.

The general secretary of the Delhi State Akali Dal- Longowal, Mr Onkar Singh Thapar, congratulated the Punjab government for acting in time. In a statement in Chandigarh today, the speaker of the Haryana Vidhan Sabha [Legislative Assembly] said the action has created confidence among the masses. He called upon the Sikhs throughout the country to extend full cooperation to the government in its efforts to clear such antinational elements from religious places.

The Haryana minister of state for cooperation, Mr Pyara Singh, said the government should lay down a strict code to prohibit the misuse of religious places by antinational elements.

The Assam chief minister, Mr Profully Kumar Mohanta, said persons posing a threat to national security should be dealt with ruthlessly.

The action of the Punjab government in flushing out anti-Sikh, antinational and criminal elements, who had forcibly occupied the Golden Temple, has been fully endorsed at a joint meeting of the Akali Dal working committee and its party legislators in Chandigarh today.

In a resolution the meeting said the action was in pursuance of the mandate given by the Sarbat Khalsa [highest Sikh religious congregational assembly] held on 16 February at the historic Takht Shri Kesgarh Sabib. The meeting strongly condemned the secessionist declaration by the mercenary mafia of murderers and criminals at the behest of foreign powers which are interested in the destabilization and destruction of the unity, solidarity, and sovereignty of the country.

Punjab Chief on Temple Operation

BK011601 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT
1 May 86

[Text] In Punjab, normalcy has been restored after the state police and paramilitary forces completed their task of flushing out the extremists and criminals from the Golden Temple complex in Amritsar early this morning.

The Punjab chief minister, Mr Surjit Singh Barnala, has said the state government had to undertake a hurried and limited operation to flush out the terrorists and anti-national elements who intruded into the Golden Temple complex. Talking to newsmen in Chandigarh this evening, he said this operation has successfully achieved its aim with minimum loss. Mr Barnala said clear instructions to use the utmost restraint even on the face of grave provocation were given to the personnel who participated in the operations. In all, 300 persons were rounded up within the complex area, including Bhai Gurdev Singh who was nominated the acting chief of the Akal Takht [highest seat of Sikh religion — fbis] by a congregation held on the 26th of January this year. The chief minister said none of the five members of the so-called Panthic [Sikh religious] committee could be arrested since they are reported to have slipped away immediately after issuance of a secessionist statement on Tuesday [29 April] night.

Mr Barnala said it was a painful and difficult decision for him to send the police inside the complex. But it was taken in pursuance of the unanimous directive given by the Sarbat Khalsa [Sikh highest religious congregation] at Anandpur Sahib. He expressed the hope that the Shiromani Gurdwara Prabandhak [Sikh temple management] committee will be able to administer more effective control inside the complex now as all the intruders have been evicted. He said apart from the Golden Temple complex, some arms and ammunition have also been recovered during simultaneous searches of a few other gurdwaras also. Mr Barnala maintained that the terrorists and extremists had collected a number of arms and ammunition inside the temple complex which they took away while fleeing before operation.

Mr Barnala said today's bundh [strike] call given by the All India Sikh Students Federation has evoked no response at all. Shops and commercial establishments function normally. About 240,000 students appeared for various examinations despite the call for boycott of examinations by some organizations.

Police Action 'Welcomed'

BK010404 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT
1 May 86

[Excerpt] The home minister, Mr Narasimha Rao, has reaffirmed the government's resolve not to allow the use of holy places for unholy purposes in future. He was intervening in the Lok Sabha yesterday on the discussion over his earlier statement regarding the announcement of the formation of the so-called Khalistan by a group of people styling themselves as the Panthic [Sikh religious] committee.

The Punjab government action to flush out the secessionists from the Golden Temple complex in Amritsar by deploying police and

paramilitary forces has been widely welcomed. The Himachal Pradesh chief minister, Mr Vir Bhadra Singh, said the action was necessary to maintain the unity and integrity of the country.

The West Bengal chief minister, Mr Jyoti Basu, observed that there was no alternative than to deploy paramilitary forces to tackle the latest situation.

The Janata Party president, Mr Chandrasekhar, described the government action as unavoidable.

The general secretary of Takht Shri Harmanderji, Patna Sahib, Mr Kuldip Singh Bargah, welcomed the action and appealed to all Sikhs in and outside Punjab to unite and work for the unity and integrity of the country.

Several Sikh organizations in Madhya Pradesh have supported the government action against the extremist elements. The Sikh community in Mandi and (Revalsar) in Himachal Pradesh have also welcomed the government action. The convenor of the Bihar Sikh Relief and Rehabilitation Samiti, Mr Surendrajit Singh Haluwalia, congratulated the Punjab chief minister on taking the bold step to meet the challenge of the terrorists.

Two Extremist Groups Banned

BK011639 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT
1 May 86

[Text] The government today extended the ban on two extremist organizations — Dal Khalsa and the National Council of Khalistan — by another 2 years. The ban imposed on the two organizations in 1984 expired yesterday. The Ministry of Home Affairs issued separate notifications under the Unlawful Activities Prevention Act declaring these organizations unlawful with immediate effect. Those [organizations] have been charged with preaching and encouraging secessionist and violent activities aimed at disrupting the territorial integrity of the country. The notification says: Both the organizations stood for the creation of a so-called Khalistan, a separate Sikh state.

Day Curfew Lifted

BK011555 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT
1 May 86

[Text] In Amritsar, curfew was relaxed for 3 hours from 1700 today. The relaxation period passed off peacefully. Day curfew will be completely lifted from 0400 tomorrow morning. However, night curfew from 2000 to 0400 will continue until further orders.

Commentator Welcomes Bhutto Caution on Khalistan

BK011415 Delhi General Overseas Service in English
1340 GMT 1 May 86

[Political commentator S.C. Bhatt commentary: "Words of Wisdom"]

[Text] The Pakistan president, General Ziaul Haq, and the prime minister, Mr Mohammad Khan Junejo, have both turned down

the demand for an early election to the National Assembly. They have pointed out that the assembly was elected a little over a year ago when Mr Junejo became the first civilian head of government after nearly 8 years. The House has a life of 5 years, and the next election is thus not due before 1990.

The demand for a fresh midterm poll has been powerfully voiced by Miss Benazir Bhutto, leader of the Pakistan People's Party [PPP] who is now back home from London. Miss Bhutto has received tumultuous welcome from the people of Punjab and the Northwest Frontier Province of Pakistan in the past couple of weeks since her return home. Unprecedented crowds have turned up everywhere she went to express their joy on her return to political activity and leadership of the PPP. The party was in power under her father, the late Mr Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, before his government was overthrown by the military. It is during her easy march from Lahore where she first landed from abroad to Peshawar that she made the demand for a fresh election. The election held last year was on a nonparty basis in which the parties represented in the MRD — Movement for Restoration of Democracy — did not take part. Only the Muslim League faction led by Mr Junejo and the Pir of Pagara was represented in the contest through its nominees who were, however, not allowed to run on a party basis and not allowed to campaign along the recognized democratic line. Since then, there has been a continuous debate in Pakistan, mute at first, but becoming loud and clear as time went on for a fresh election to the National Assembly.

Individuals coming together after the election to form a group or groups cannot be an answer to the democratic process of political parties putting forward their program in advance and the people making their choice on the basis of program and platform. So, Miss Benazir Bhutto is not the only one, nor indeed the first one, to demand a fresh democratic election to the National Assembly of Pakistan so that a truly representative government could emerge out of it. The latest to speak in support of this demand is the acting speaker of the House himself. It remains to be seen how Miss Bhutto will pursue the matter and what kind of relationship her party will now have with the other parties in the MRD and outside it. This is an important issue, since the MRD allies will all try to retain their individual identity while the PPP will try to assert its preeminent position.

Observers are generally agreed that so far the young leader of the PPP has conducted herself with dignity and firmness, shrewdness, and political sagacity. She has not allowed the popular enthusiasm to go out of control and the authorities have also demonstrated restraint and not interfered with her activities or the gathering of crowds.

Her remarks on the issue of the Pakistani Government's attitude toward the terrorist activities in the Punjab state in India are of special significance. It is well-known that a small section of the Sikhs who have been indulging in violent activities have been receiving support and sympathy from Pakistan. Details of such support have been given in India's Parliament by the minister of state for internal security, Mr Arun Nehru, and the matter has been taken up more than once with the Islamabad authorities who have, of course, denied any involvement. Facts speak for themselves, and dozens of captured terrorists have admitted having received training and arms in Pakistan. It is in this context

that Miss Bhutto uttered words of wisdom and caution for her government and people that they should not be involved with the demand for a so-called Khalistan, an independent Sikh state. Not only the Pakistani Government but the media in that country have evinced keen interest and played up the so-called Khalistan supporters.

Miss Bhutto's words are as much addressed to them as to the Zia regime. She particularly cautioned her countrymen against the implications of the demand for Khalistan. As she said, Lahore is the focal point of any talk of Khalistan, since Lahore was the capital of the independent kingdom of Sikh king, Maharaja Ranjit Singh.

Here is some food for thought for the government in Islamabad and for the Pakistani media.

Gandhi Orders Payments to Delhi Riot Victims

*BK301005 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT
30 Apr 86*

[Text] The prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, has given directions to dispose of the claims and compensation cases of the Delhi riot [which flared up following Mrs Indira Gandhi's assassination in 1984] victims by the end of next month. Cases of victims in the rest of the country will be disposed of by the end of June.

An official spokesman said in New Delhi today that the government has been examining the rehabilitation cases of the victims of November 1984 riots and has held several meetings in this regard.

Regarding applications for granting credit facilities by the banks to the victims for starting new enterprises, the spokesman said 16,384 applications were received from various parts of the country. Fifty-three crore rupees have been sanctioned in 10,451 cases. Only 222 cases are pending while the rest have been rejected. The spokesman said the National Council of Applied Economic Research was asked to go into 5,354 rejected cases. In its report it found out that one-third of the rejected applicants showed lack of interest or were getting credit facilities from other banks or institutions. Referring to the package of concessions announced by the Reserve Bank of India which will be ending on the 30th of June this year, the spokesman said these concessions would continue till the 30th of June next year. The Reserve Bank of India will also announce a new set of instructions to further liberalize these facilities.

11 Killed in Uttar Pradesh Police Shooting

*BK301559 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT
30 Apr 86*

[Text] In Uttar Pradesh, 11 persons were killed and about 15 injured today when police had to open fire to contain a violent mob in Barabanki. An official spokesman told newsmen in Lucknow today that the mob indulged in heavy brickbatting, injuring in addition the superintendent of police and three constables seriously. The police lathi [baton] charged and lobbed teargas shells in an effort to control the situation. When it failed to disperse the unruly crowd, the police finally opened fire. The spokesman said that the situation is under control. The spokesman said 10,000 people courted arrest today in the state in connection with a disputed religious place.

SRI LANKA

Security Minister: 105 Dead in Tamil Clashes
BK021139 Colombo International Service in English
1045 GMT 2 May 86

[Text] The national security minister, Lalith Athulathmudali, puts the death toll in the fighting between the two major Tamil terrorist groups in the north at over 100. He said that 105 terrorists and several civilians have died in the clashes so far. The majority of the terrorists are members of the Tamil Eelam Liberation Organization. The other group involved in the fighting is the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam.

Authorative sources told LANKA PUWATH that 40 of the dead were civilians who had been caught up in the cross fire. They also said that the terrorists were now burning the bodies to prevent identification.

Attempts were also being made to cut off communications between Jaffna and the rest of the island in order to blackout news about the war between the two terrorist factions. Yesterday, the government said it would provide protection for the terrorists who wished to surrender in view of the threat posed to their lives.

A communique issued by the government said that many lives had already been lost in the fighting, and that dozens had been injured. It pointed out that it was ironical that among those killed

or wounded were civilians who had nothing to do with any of the terrorist group.

Meanwhile, all coordinating officers in the north and the east had been instructed by the government to provide adequate security for the people.

Reports from India say that the Indian Government is trying to help in bringing an end to the bitter fighting between the two terrorist groups.

Head of Indian Delegation Denies Daily's Accusation
BK020949 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT
2 May 86

[Text] In Sri Lanka, the visiting Indian delegation has denied a report published in a Colombo daily. The report said that its leader, the minister of state for personnel [and administrative reforms], Mr P. Chidambaram, had told Sri Lankan opposition leader, Mr Anura Bandaranaike, that India cannot ask the Sri Lankan militants to leave the country now because of Indian public opinion.

The spokesman of the delegation in a statement in Colombo today said that the entire report in the daily, *THE ISLAND*, is inaccurate. He said the delegation is surprised the that an exchange of a political level has been publicized with such scant respect for facts.

Reportage on Velayati's Visit to Libya, Syria

JANA: Joint Statement Issued

LD011253 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1130 GMT 1 May 86

[Text] Tripoli, 1 May (JANA) — A joint statement was issued today in Tripoli and Tehran at the end of the visit of the two brothers 'Ali Akbar Velayati, the foreign minister, and Mohsen Rafiqdust, the minister of the revolutionary guards of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyyah (SPLAJ). The following is the text of the statement:

A delegation from the Islamic Republic of Iran consisting of the brothers: Dr 'Ali Akbar Velayati, the foreign minister, and Mohsen Rafiqdust, the minister of revolutionary guards, accompanied by a politico-military delegation, paid a visit to the SPLAJ from 28 to 30 April 1986 to express the solidarity and the support of the Islamic Iranian revolution and the Iranian people for the Jamahiriyyah people against the failed American aggression.

The delegation visited the sites of the bombing of the civilian quarters and inspected the harm caused by the treacherous aggression to children, women, and the aged. The delegation also saw for itself the debris of the planes shot down by the Libyan air defenses, proving the steadfastness and efficacy of the Libyan Arab resistance, which confronted the aggression with valour and determination.

Out of the responsibilities of Libya and Iran as two Islamic revolutions for supporting the Arab and Islamic masses, and for checking the 10th crusading campaign waged by the United States and its allies, the two sides affirm the following:

1. The American aggression on the Jamahiriyyah is nothing more than a 10th crusading war led by the United States and Europe and the Zionist enemy against Islam and the Muslims. This is clearly evident by the statement of Reagan at the start of the aggression that "the raids on Libya were directed against Al-Qadhdhafi in his capacity as an Islamic extremist." This statement affirms the objectives and dimensions of the crusading aggression.

2. This tenth crusading campaign will, with full force, be confronted by Libya and Iran, which will mobilize one billion Muslims and embroil them in this battle (in defense) of their fate, sanctity, and their existence. If this war is waged, it will be an all-out war and not confined to Libya and Iran. It will stretch from the Eastern part of the Muslim world to its Western part.

The Islamic revolutions in Libya and Iran are able to lead the Muslims in confronting this crusading campaign. Proceeding from this, the two sides are warning America and Europe against the repercussions of this campaign. They stress that just as when the Muslims won the previous crusading war, the Islamic masses will be able to achieve victory in the tenth crusading war. When Libya and Iran are stressing this, they mean what they are saying.

3. The two sides warn America against any new aggression on the Jamahiriyyah and stress that any aggression against the Jamahiriyyah will be resisted by Libya and Iran, and by the

Islamic masses throughout the Islamic world. They also warn the European countries against any submission to American terrorism and threats. These countries should cancel the aggressive measures which they have taken against Libya. Otherwise, they will be held responsible for the consequences. At the same time, the industrialized countries will shoulder any consequences resulting from imposing political and economic measures against Libya under American pressure and terrorism.

4. Libya and Iran reject the accusation of terror and confirm that Reagan and some of his allies are criminals and killers of children, and that the Black House is the bastion of official terror in the world, and that the Islamic masses are the victims of the American-Atlanticist-Zionist terror, which is represented in political, economic, informationist, psychological, and military terror, and confirmed by the starvation imposed on these masses, and that in confrontation of this terror the whole Islamic land will erupt like a volcano in order to destroy the supports of aggression and its perpetrators.

5. The Zionist-American Marshall plan that was promoted by the Zionist enemy and America, and that is today adopted by the industrial states, is nothing but another crusade in an economic form. It is a plan being financed by the funds of the Arab and Islamic oil, and America has resorted to it after its plans for the confrontation and subjugation of the Islamic popular revolutions failed.

This imperialist-Zionist plan is aimed at the tightening of control over the region and will end up making it subordinate to America, and this is another economic crusade working for the economic invasion of the region and subjecting it to the influence of America and its allies, and hindering the growth and escalation of revolution in it.

6. The Islamic masses all over the Islamic world, from East to West, are requested to kindle their Jihad fervor in order to confront the 10th crusade being led by America and supported by Europe and the Zionist enemy, because the target of this campaign is their religion, sanctity, civilization, existence, and resources. In response to this campaign, the Islamic masses should not accept any restriction or custodianship which prevents them from carrying out their sacred duty: Jihad, revolution and martyrdom.

7. The Libyan side confirms its principled attitudes to the war imposed by the fascist regime in Iraq on the Islamic Republic of Iran. Also, the Iranian side confirms its respect for the sovereignty of neighboring Arab states, and denies any expansionist ambitions in the land of Iraq or others, and adheres to the respect of the will of the Muslim Arab people in Iraq to determine its future by itself in accordance with its political, social, and ideological choices. Tripoli, 20 Sh'aban 1395 AH, corresponding to 30 April 1986

IRNA Reports Joint Communique

LD011542 Tehran IRNA in English 1534 GMT 1 May 86

[Text] Tripoli, May 1, IRNA — Iran and Libya issued a joint communique Thursday calling for Muslim solidarity in condemn-

nation of 15 April U.S. air attack on Libyan cities. The communique was issued at the end of a three-day visit by Iranian Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati to Tripoli.

"American aggression on the Libyan republic was nothing but the tenth crusade led by America and the Zionist enemy against Islam and the Muslims" the communique said. Both Libya and the Islamic republic of Iran hold anti-imperialist and anti-Zionist foreign policies and call for the political solidarity of Muslim countries.

Velayati on a tour of Iran's two Arab allies, Syria and Libya, had earlier visited residential areas destroyed in the U.S. bombing run.

"Libya and Iran will use all their resources to confront the tenth crusade and to mobilize the one billion Muslims in defense of their religion and independence" the communique said. It warned European countries of "accepting American pressure and terrorism" and called for cancellation of "criminal measures adopted against Libya."

The two countries also criticized U.S. economic strategy in the Middle East for aiming to bring political developments of the region under its hegemony. "The Zionist-American Marshall Plan that is to be implemented by industrial countries is simply the economic face of the crusade" said the communique. "The plan is supported by the oil money of Arab Muslim countries and adopted by America to defeat popular Islamic revolutions" it added. "Zionists and Americans plan to strengthen their influence and hegemony in the region and the (Marshall) Plan is an economic aggression to create difficulties in the development of liberation movements" it said.

Libya also expressed its support for Iran and war against Iraq and called for the fall of the Baghdad regime.

Interviewed on Visit

LD020928 Tehran IRNA in English 0910 GMT 2 May 86

[Text] Tehran, May 2, IRNA — Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati and Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps Minister Mohsen Rafiqdust returned here Friday morning from a four day visit to Libya and Syria.

In an interview at the airport here, Velayati said the trip took place under circumstances that there were pressures from the U.S. side upon friendly countries of Libya and Syria. "It was essential to closely discuss these plots and their repercussions with the leaders of these countries and consult ways to counter them," the foreign minister said.

He said the U.S. had fortunately failed in its attempts to weaken the morale of the Libyan people. "We saw for ourselves that the determination of the Libyan people in their fight against imperialism has not been damaged and that the recent U.S. attack on Libya has proved a total failure for America," he said.

Velayati also said that he had submitted a message from Iran's President 'Ali Khamene'i to Col. Mu'ammarr al-Qadhafi and

Hafiz al-Asad during the talks on the regional stance against the conspiracies of global oppressors.

Calls Talks 'Constructive'

GF020622 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 2 May 86

[Text] Foreign Minister Velayati, who headed a high-level delegation to the countries of Libya and Syria, returned to Tehran this morning. Upon his arrival in Tehran, Mr Velayati spoke to our correspondent on the details of his visit to Libya and Syria, which we will now hear:

[Begin recording] [Unidentified correspondent]: In view of the pressure exerted by the United States against Libya in particular, and also against Syria, can you please tell us about the significance of the visit of the high-level delegation from the Islamic Republic of Iran to these countries under these circumstances? [Velayati]: In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. As you have mentioned, the visit of this delegation took place under circumstances in which the United States and its allies exerted immense pressure on Libya in particular, and to a lesser degree on Syria. It was essential that we viewed the situation firsthand in Tripoli and consulted with our Libyan brothers to discuss ways and means of counteracting such conspiracies. Fortunately, the morale of our Libyan brothers — the people and the government — has been very high and we had very positive and constructive talks on the subject.

The actual objective of the U.S. aggression was to shatter the morale of our brothers in Libya — that is, the war was actually psychological and propagandistic. I should state that they were defeated in their purpose, because the morale of the Libyans is very high and there is no weakening in their resolve to combat imperialism. Similarly, we had meetings with our Syrian brothers. We conveyed President Khamene'i's message to Colonel al-Qadhafi and Mr Hafiz al-Asad. All in all, in the two countries, what we found common between them was the strong resolve to continue along the firm path they have trod until now.

[Correspondent] What is your opinion of the efforts of the heads of the Arab states?

[Velayati] Of course, some Arab states — that is, those who are the real friends of Libya and Syria — wish to convene this session to promote a sort of coordination and cooperation among our friends in these countries against such instigation. Other countries sought to take unfair advantage of the situation. Instead of tackling the actual task — the real objective, to combat the United States — they digressed by proposing other issues. These were summarily rejected by our brothers in the progressive Arab group who were aware of these attempts to digress from these issues. An emergency meeting of the Arab League had been called for this specific purpose and those who wished to see it fail recommended peripheral issues which would obviously eclipse the main problem, the U.S. attack on Libya. Perhaps some countries were not too disinclined over the failure to achieve this objective. We are optimistic that the true friends and supporters of Libya and Syria in the Arab community will be successful in steering the course of these sessions in the proper direction. We also had discussions with our friends in this regard and are quite

hopeful that the trend of the political matters at the Arab summit will flow in a direction that will be advantageous and beneficial to the Arab community. [end recording]

Majlis Speaker Condemns Failure To Hold Arab Summit

*LD021253 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT
2 May 86*

[Text] Coinciding with the anniversary of the martyrdom of the great teacher of Islam and distinguished philosopher, martyr professor Mortaza Motahhari and with Teacher Day, politico-religious ceremonies of Friday prayers were held throughout the country today.

The citizens of Tehran present at Tehran University and surrounding thoroughfares also performed Friday prayers today under the imamate of Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Hashemi-Rafsanjani. The Tehran Friday prayers ceremony today took place in the presence of an independent Basij brigade ready to leave for the fronts from the central province, a group of Sunni and Shi'a ulama from Lebanon, a visiting Saharan delegation and 800 of the participants in the ideological seminar of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps.

Opening his second Friday prayers sermon, Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Hashemi-Rafsanjani used the occasion of the anniversary of the martyr professor Morteza Motahhari and Teacher Day to pay tribute to the valuable services of that dear martyr as a teacher whose lasting works will solve many of society's current problems and those of our future generations. He referred to the presence of more than 50 divisions [as heard] of workers on Labor Day and said: The declaration that the workers throughout the country are fully ready to go to the battlefronts to demonstrate to the world that our workers and oppressed are alert and faithful to the revolution. They have been able, in conditions stemming from the war, to keep the country's factories going.

The Majlis speaker later paid tribute to Teacher Day and stressed: Our nation places great value on knowledge, teachers, school, university, learning and training. Our teachers at all levels should be among the dearest sections of society. Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Hashemi-Rafsanjani later noted the fact that since the revolution, some 25,000 schools had been built throughout the country and that more than 10 million pupils and hundreds of thousands of students are currently acquiring knowledge and studying throughout the country. He called upon the people to help the government in securing the resources needed for the educational sector at all levels.

The imam's representative to the Supreme Defense Council then turned to the problems of the Islamic world and strongly condemned the Islamic Arab states' inability to convene an Arab summit. He continued: The 250-million-strong American superpower attacked a 3-million-strong Libyan state. And yet Islamic Arab states find themselves unable to convene a summit conference to find a remedy in the face of that aggression. Some of their leaders cunningly assert that should there be a conference, it ought to be held in Morocco and should debate the Iran-Iraq war as well. One must wonder why they want the conference to be

held in Morocco — a country which is in America's pocket. They place their oil at the disposal of Western plunderers at cost price. Unfortunately, we also have the rulers of the Arab world to contend with.

In the imposed war America wants to impose a cease-fire on us which is worse than the war itself -- so that Iran and Iraq will expend all their resources on the war -- and to make sure that there will always be a rift in the Arab world to prevent them from convening a conference. The imam's representative to the Supreme Defense Council stated: The only salvation in the imposed war lies in eliminating the Iraqi Ba'ith Party from the region, and ensuring Islam's victory and the defeat of blasphemy. Our nation would not be satisfied with anything less. Our leader has stated this right from the start. Only with the cooperation of the two Islamic nations, Iran and Iraq, can the ground be prepared for solving the problems of the Muslim peoples of the region and of the Islamic world.

In his first Friday prayers sermon in Tehran today, Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi-Rafsanjani continued his argument concerning social justice from the standpoint of Islam. Regarding the matter of perfunctory observance of Islamic dress which some people still fail to observe 7 years after the revolution, he said: The Supreme Judicial Council has drafted a bill under which, when passed by the Majlis, such persons will be sent to rehabilitation and training camps at their own expense, because the government will not foot the bill. Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Hashemi-Rafsanjani emphasized: With such a law we would no longer tolerate a group of whimsical slobes toying with the interests of society in order to weaken the family.

Khamene'i States Global Powers 'Feel in Danger'

LD011333 Tehran IRNA in English 1315 GMT 1 May 86

[Text] Tehran, May 1, IRNA — President 'Ali Khamene'i said here Thursday that globe's arrogant powers seriously feel in danger since the storm of the Islamic Revolution and the great victories recently achieved in the battlefronts might ruin their interests. President Khamene'i made his statement in a ceremony marking the anniversary of martyrdom of Ayatollah Morteza Motahhari as well as day of teacher. He was addressing three thousand teachers and university students from teacher training centers.

"Global arrogance is highly concerned about the storm of the Islamic Revolution whereas Third World nations happily respects the victories of the revolution" he said. "Deprived people are assured that the Islamic Republic will achieve success vis-a-vis the U.S. plots."

Khamene'i stated that various classes of the nation are prepared to participate in the Iraqi imposed-war fronts and "the future of the war is bright as a result of the preparedness of the people." "Participation of the people has completely ruined the expectations of the globe's arrogant powers," he said.

The president predicted that Iran's Muslim nation will succeed in the way by the end of current year. "This would be the victory of Islam and the Koran."

Musavi on Opposition Groups, Economy, United States
LD021151 Tehran IRNA in English 1131 GMT 2 May 86

[Text] London, May 2 IRNA — Prime Minister Hoseyn Musavi said in an interview published here that opposition groups inside Iran could carry on with their activities as long as they did not seek the overthrow the Islamic Republic or take up arms against it.

He also said Iran would not resume foreign borrowing despite the sharp slump in the price of oil. Instead, he said, the government would use the opportunity to move faster towards self-sufficiency.

In an interview with the London-based *ARABIA* magazine (May 1), the Iranian prime minister said the government will "allow the opposition to be active as long as it does not intend to overthrow the Islamic Republic."

"The policy of the government has been to tolerate the opposition. As an example I can refer to the Freedom movement (Party) and other groups which are presently active."

"But as for the U.S. or Soviet-backed splinter groups, who may intend to overthrow the government by armed means, we will treat them without the slightest forgiveness and this is something which we still follow."

Musavi added that because of the government's popular support the opposition forces were "at a disadvantage" and that it was difficult for them to get the support of the masses.

The Iranian prime minister said the steep fall in the price of oil would have its affect on Iran. "But even if the oil prices decline even further, or remain at the present level, we would use this as a lever to speed up our self-sufficiency and (economic) independence."

He also said that Iran was determined not to be attracted to foreign borrowing. Today, Iran does not owe any money to foreign countries and would not borrow from them in the future, he said. "We manage our economy on the basis of that very income" Iran has.

On Iran's policy to "export the Islamic Revolution", Musavi stressed that the real meaning of this was to defend Islam, not to promote subversion in other countries. "At present there are 40 radio stations active against the Islamic Republic of Iran in an attempt to export their culture and beliefs of our country. No one says anything when the U.S. wants to export its culture to our country. But when we speak about Islam and that Muslims should return to Islam they say that we intend to export our revolution. If the export of revolution means that we proclaim the message that the dignity of Muslims depends on their return to Islam then we accept that we export the revolution."

Asked about Iran's "soft criticism" against Moscow, the prime minister said Iran "did not sustain as much damage" from the Soviet Union than from the United States in the last 50 years. "We strongly hold our 'neither East nor west' policy. But it is

true that the eastern bloc countries have adopted a more realistic policy than the west vis-a-vis the Islamic Republic of Iran."

He said Iran demanded the withdrawal of the Soviet forces from Afghanistan and as a religious duty, it was "obliged to support" the Afghan people to achieve their objective.

Further Reportage on May Day Events, Speeches
LD011421 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 1 May 86

[Text] In special ceremonies throughout the country today on the occasion of International Labor Day 50 workers' mobilization divisions of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps demonstrated their combat potential.

Our correspondent in Tehran reports that 15 divisions of the mobilization forces from the resistance bases in Tehran's factories, workers centers in Tehran Province, and also several divisions from the mobilization resistance bases in government departments in Tehran Province, held an armed parade in Tehran. Participants praised International Labor Day and proclaimed the increasing readiness of the country's workers to respond to the call of the imam of the Islamic nation to participate in the battlefronts in addition to their presence on the economic fronts. According to this report, the workers participating in these ceremonies, wearing head-bands inscribed with the slogans "We respond to thy summons, O Khomeyni," "O Martyred Husayn!" "War, war until victory!" "Death to the USA, and death to Israel," held a rally in Martyr Shirudi Stadium after marching through the streets.

According to our correspondent, during the ceremonies in Martyr Shirudi Stadium, attended by Hojjat ol-Islam Karrubi, the imam's representative and head of the martyrs Foundation of the Islamic Revolution, the minister of labor and social affairs, the official in charge of the mobilization of the meek of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, the head of the Labor Committee of the Islamic Consultative Assembly, other state personalities, and revolutionary Muslim workers from Tehran's factories emphasized the continuation of the war until final victory, and underlined their condemnation of world arrogance and their readiness to go to the battlefronts against the aggressor and to wage struggle in the trench of monotheism and self-sufficiency.

After the workers had sung several songs, the message from Hashemi-Rafsanjani, speaker of the Islamic Consultative Assembly, in connection with International Labor Day, was read by the workers representative to the Majlis. The message, referring to the high valuation of workers in Islam and the new dignity given to work and to workers for the first time by the Islamic revolution, says: At a time when millions of workers are languishing under the overlordship of world arrogance and living through difficult days and nights due to the pressures of arduous work, and when the world's materialist systems have dragged the workers into slavery and turned them into instruments of production, in Islamic Iran the sweat of the workers and toilers, side by side with the blood of the martyrs of the path of freedom and devotion, are pouring into a single channel. The workers, in step with the heroes of the battlefield, are tearing off colonialist

shackles and smashing through the barriers of dependence every day. They have consolidated and strengthened the foundation of independence and the backbone of the Islamic Republic.

The message from the speaker of the Islamic Consultative Assembly, referring to the monumental role of workers on the battlefields, says: Now that the fronts of light against darkness have acquired fresh energy and excitement thanks to the powerful and monolithic presence of the muscle of the revolution. The presence of the workers in all the spheres of cultural, political, social, and military battles is a guarantee of the might of the Islamic Republic and charts the path of the defense of Islam.

The message emphasizes the role of workers in waging struggle against the economic hegemony of world arrogance. It continues: Iran's warrior Islamic nation fixes its gaze on your creative and inventive hands and awaits the liberation of the country's ailing and captive economy and industry from enslavement by the world-grabbers thanks to your efforts and perseverance.

Our correspondent's report continues: As a continuation of these ceremonies, after the reading of the message of the workers mobilization of the meek mobilization unit of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, Mr Karrubi, the imam's representative and supervisor of the Martyrs Foundation of the Islamic Revolution, made a speech referring to the tremendous role played by workers in achieving the victory of the Islamic Revolution in the struggle against splinter groups and on the battlefronts against the aggressor enemy. He addressed the workers, the genuine owners and inheritors of the revolution, and said: With your mighty muscle you have so far stood against all difficulties, and, armed with selflessness and self-sacrifice in your diverse struggles, particularly on the warfronts of good against evil, you have proved your loyalty to the revolution and to its leader. And today, when we are going through a sensitive phase in the history of our country, we should not bend our backs under the weight of difficulties. We should stand inflexibly against the enemy and continue our struggle until final victory!

In conclusion, referring to certain difficulties and shortcomings, particularly the difficulties of workers, he said: The country's responsible authorities are aware of your difficulties, dear workers, and of certain discriminations and exploitations which still exist. The authorities know that there are still a number of profiteering opportunists who, at a time when you are giving your blood for the revolution, are striving to further their own interests and to amass riches. Some people, either knowingly or unknowingly, are also protecting them! However, you should not become despondent, because these things are part of the difficulties of a revolution. The struggle waged against the United States and world arrogance entails great difficulties and hardships. In order to solve the difficulties one should pay heed to today's sensitive conditions! However, you may be assured that all responsible officials of the Majlis and the government are working toward removing these difficulties.

In the conclusion of these ceremonies, a 12-point resolution was read. This resolution, the points of which were approved by chants of "God is great" by Tehran's Muslim workers while proclaiming their obedience to the historical behest of the imam of the Islamic nation with regard to an extensive presence of the

people on the fronts, expressed their readiness to change production lines to the production of arms and ammunition.

While condemning the plot by world arrogance to reduce the price of oil and the blatant U.S. aggression against the land of our friend and brother, Libya, the resolution called for a grassroots, decisive, revolutionary, Islamic struggle against those amassing riches, the hoarders and mini-satans, to be waged by the Islamic Consultative Assembly, the judiciary, and the government.

In the resolution, the Muslim workers from Tehran's factories, while proclaiming their support for the struggle of the Islamic councils of workers and workers mobilization against the groups, technocrats, and the remnants of Satan, demanded an investigation by the authorities in the Ministry of Housing and Urban Development and the Urban Land Organization of the difficulties of the workers' housing cooperatives and the granting of factory shares to the workers, so that care for the workers will be translated from slogans into action.

Montazeri Comments on Arab Reaction to Libyan Attack *GF281346 Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 17 April 86 p 3*

[Atricle: "Ayatollah Montazeri: Arab Countries Should Not Remain Indifferent Toward American Attack on Libya"]

[Text] Qom — Following the brutal attack of the U.S. fighters upon the residential quarters of the Islamic land of Libya and the killing of hundreds of our Libyan Muslim brothers and sisters, Ayatollah Montazeri, before delivering his lecture on religious jurisprudence to his class, expressed his sympathy with the Islamic nation of Libya and offered his condolences.

He then criticized the attack and said: The U.S. attack on Libya is in actual fact an attack on the united Islamic nation. All Muslims, especially those in Arab countries, should not remain indifferent to this crime. He then stressed: Merely verbal condemnation of the United States is not enough; Muslims should take some definite action.

He added: When the basic policy of the United States and the Western countries rests on supporting terrorism and resorting to bloodshed, how can they introduce themselves as anti-terrorists? You know that at the very outset Israel was created by a group of Jewish terrorists, with the support of Britain and the United States, in the land of Palestine. Thousands of Palestinian Muslims were ousted from their homeland or martyred to make room for them. Other examples are the U.S. military attack on Cuba at the Bay of Pigs, and the very small but revolutionary country of Grenada. There is also the financial and military aid given by the United States to the Nicaraguan terrorists. One cannot forget the murders and crimes that the United States committed in Vietnam. However, they were thrown out of Vietnam in a disgraceful defeat. Another example is France, which has accommodated terrorist leaders in its own country and then supports them. It is very surprising that these countries which indulge in terror and terrorism should present themselves as anti-terrorists.

Montazeri continued: All of the Western countries and the countries which have contact with the United States at the government level are participants in this brutal crime. These countries should review their relations with the United States.

You know that the heads of the Persian Gulf countries who met Bush recently and signed secret treaties with him have placed their oil and all other resources at the disposal of the United States. The United States supports Israel with the dollars of these Persian Gulf countries so that Israel may commit any crime it likes in Palestine, Lebanon, and the Arab countries.

Meanwhile, these same Persian Gulf countries support Saddam and send aid to him so that he may continue his crimes a bit longer. If it were not for their aid, Saddam would be nowhere. Heads of the Persian Gulf countries should know that they are partners in all of the crimes committed by the United States, Israel, and Saddam. Wherever the blood of the innocent is spilled by the United States, Israel, and Saddam, or when the United States attacks Libya, the heads of the Persian Gulf states are equally responsible for these crimes. They should, therefore, review their own position before the same fate as that of Mohammad Reza Shah is meted out to them. They should also know that during this present age, the nations are awake and on their way to achieving independence.

Grand Ayatollah Montazeri added: The Islamic nations are dutybound to take serious and basic action against this blatant American attack on the Libyan Islamic nation. In doing so they would be acting against a front of blasphemy. They should know that the world oppressors have established a front against Islamic nations.

Concerning the nonaligned countries, he said: It is no use to become nonaligned in words and slogans only to have friendly relations with the United States and other similar countries. If what they say is from their heart, they should become united in practice against the crimes of the United States. They should sever their relations with the United States just as the revolutionary country of Iran has done. It has cut its relations with the United States, arrested American spies, and thrown them out of the country. The United States could do nothing against us.

Commerce Minister Details 1985 Export Figures

LD271230 Tehran IRNA in English 1000 GMT 27 Apr 86

[Text] Tehran, April 27, IRNA — Iran's exports for the past year (ending March 20) increased by of 98.96 percent in weight and 25.55 percent in value compared to the preceding year, announced Commerce minister Hasan Abedi-Ja'fari during the cabinet session presided over by Prime Minister Husayn Musavi, Sunday morning. He said that by increasing export items and using the existing potentials, the Islamic republic of Iran will be able to boost the volume of its exports by 35 percent.

Meanwhile, the cabinet discussed domestic and foreign issues and ministers of defence and Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps reported on latest developments in war fronts.

Captured Iraqi Troops Brought to Ahvaz

LD012240 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 1 May 86

[Text] Our correspondent reports the arrival in Ahvaz of a number of deceived Iraqi POW's who were captured in recent operations in the "Val-Fajr-8" operational sector. This group of Iraqi POW's, among whom a number of NCO's and officers may be seen, captured during recent victorious operations by the Islamic forces along the Al-Faw-Basra, and Al-Faw-Umm Qasr axes and by the Salt Lake, arrived in Ahvaz this afternoon after being evacuated behind the fronts.

These Iraqi POW's were driven in 10 vehicles through Ahvaz thoroughfares while chanting "Death to Saddam," "Death to the United States," "God is great," and "Neither East nor West," and were welcomed by the resisting people of Ahvaz.

Mistreatment of POW's Denied

LD302346 Tehran IRNA in English 1736 GMT 30 Apr 86

[Text] Tehran, April 30, IRNA — Head of the War Information Headquarters (WIH) Dr. Kamal Kharrazi Wednesday refuted an Iraqi claim that the Islamic Republic was "mistreating" Iraqi prisoners of war and said that on the contrary it was the Baghdad government which was engaging in such misbehavior with Iranian POWS. He said Iranian authorities have always tried to comply with Iraqi POWS requests that they be allowed to hold classes and have available religious and non-religious magazines. In the course of the 5 1/2-year-old Iraqi imposed war thousands of Iraqi soldiers have been taken captive and kept in several POW camps throughout the country.

Dr. Kharrazi said that according to International Red Cross reports Iraqi officials in charge of POW camps have refused to provide Iranian POWS with even the minimal facilities to perform their religious duties. He said Iraqi jailers have physically assaulted Iranian POWS and subjected them to severest forms of physical and mental torture since their captivity.

Iraqi captors routinely play loud music and screen pornographic type films for the Iranian prisoners from dawn to dusk as part of their systematic use of psychological torture, the WIH head said.

The Islamic Republic of Iran has repeatedly called on international organizations including the United Nations to investigate the issue of Iraqi mistreatment of Iranian POWS.

On the status of Iranians missing in action, Kharrazi said that thousands of the estimated 20,000 MIA'S have so far been identified either by photos or broadcasts beamed to Iraqi mass media. However, he noted, the Baghdad government has so far refused to respond to the issue at all let alone allow Red Cross officials access to them or knowledge of their whereabouts. The most renowned Iranian POW is the former oil minister of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Mohammad Javad Tondgoyan, he said.

The WIH head said although some 400 Iranian POWS were being held in Abu Gharib prison of Iraq, the Baghdad regime denied it.

According to the latest evidence the Baghdad Government has ordered its military forces to kill any Islamic Revolution's Guards taken captive in the war fronts, Kharrazi said.

He added that an International Red Cross report indicated that IRC officials had seen signs of electrical shocks on the body of an Iranian POW, Habib Asakeri, who had been in an isolation cell for seven days.

Reportage on Combat Operations in War With Iraq

Iraqi Communications Switchboard Hit

LD011423 Tehran IRNA in English 1355 GMT 1 May 86

[Text] Ahvaz, May 1, IRNA — Iraqi Troops stationed in southern Iraq lost communication with their command centers after Iranian gunners pounded the central switchboard in the region, military sources said here Thursday. Bombardment of the center came after Iran's Muslim combatants advanced several kilometers around a salt lake in Central Al-Faw Peninsula this week, they said.

"Communication has been lost between various units of the seventh corps, stationed in Al-Faw, with the Army's headquarters and its operational commands" the sources said. The salt lake is several kilometers northwest of the oil port of Al-Faw captured by Muslim combatants in their first 1986 offensive in February.

Sources said lack of communication links has "disordered the organization of the corps and hampered their capacity to maneuver and fight."

For the past several days Iran has been reporting heavy fighting in three axes in peninsula. They are the eastern Al-Faw-Basra, Western Al-Faw-Umm Qasr and the central salt lake.

War started over five years ago when Iraqi troops stormed across the two countries 1,200 km border and captured sections of Iranian soil. Since then Iraq has pulled back under Iranian counterattacks that took combat into Iraqi soil.

Communique No 2,457

LD011714 Tehran IRNA in English 1617 GMT 1 May 86

[Text] Tehran, May 1, IRNA — The war communique Thursday reported the following operations by forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran in war against Iraq's Ba'th troops:

1. I.R.I. planes bomb Iraqi positions in Faqqeh of southern front three times Thursday. All return safely after causing heavy damage.
2. Navy inspects two oil tankers and one cargo ship in Hormuz Strait Wednesday but releases the ships after finding no Iraqi-bound cargo.
3. Sporadic artillery and skirmishes continue in all fronts, but heavier in Sumar of the western front as well as Faqqeh and Majnun Islands of the south.
4. In Faqqeh combat starts early morning Wednesday and continues. Iraqi troops have suffered casualties there.
5. In Sumar Iraqi helicopters fail to transfer troops after coming under Iranian fire.
6. In Nahr-Anbar, Chazzabah, Maymak, and Mandali Iraqi vehicle columns come under shelling and suffered damage.
7. In Qasr-e Shirin of western front one Iraqi patrol unit come under fire and fled.
8. Parts of the city of Abadan suffered damage because of Iraqi artillery shelling.

The war communique is issued by the joint staff command to report on the daily military operations in the war fronts. Thursday's communique was the 2457th issued in the imposed war.

Bombers Inflict 'Considerable Losses'

LD020810 Tehran IRNA in English 0755 GMT 2 May 86

[Text] Tehran, May 2, IRNA — Islamic Republic's fighter bombers Friday pounded enemy troops concentration points and command base in the Faqqeh region, northwest of the border town of Bostan in Iran's Khuzestan Province, according to a military communique published here. The Joint Staff command of the armed forces said in its communique that the attack took place at 05:55 hours local time (02:25 GMT) Friday and that considerable losses were inflicted on the Iraqi forces. It said all the planes returned to their bases safely.

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

5 MAY 1986

DRA

PDPA Central Committee Secretary Najibullah was unanimously elected PDPA general secretary at a 4 May PDPA Central Committee plenum following unanimous approval of Babrak Karmal's "proposal" that he be relieved of that post because of "health reasons," according to Kabul radio reports. Karmal retained his posts as president of the DRA Revolutionary Council and as a member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo. For his part, Najibullah, in his acceptance speech, affirmed his intention to "consistently follow" the DRA's domestic and foreign policy lines, and declared that the "further strengthening" of the DRA's friendship with the USSR "constitutes" the basis of the DRA's work. In a speech delivered at the plenum cited by Kabul radio, Council of Ministers chairman Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand noted Najibullah's "outstanding" talent as head of Khad and commended his belief in "collective and consultative" leadership.

In more reportage on the recent fighting in Zhawar, Paktia Province, Kabul radio reported that rebel bases in that area were "completely destroyed," and claimed that over 3,000 "counter-revolutionaries" were killed, including "almost all" of their ringleaders, and approximately 4,000 were injured. In another report, the radio asserted that 125 rebels from the Enqelab-e Eslami movement and from Gulbuddin Hikmatyar's group recently "joined" the security forces in Jowzjan and Faryab Provinces. In other action, 19 officers and communist officials were killed in Qandahar City in a 29 April rebel rocket attack during festivities marking the 8th anniversary of the April Revolution, Riyadh radio reported.

Pakistan

Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan made a 90-minute stopover in Moscow 4 May while on his way to Geneva for the seventh round of "indirect" talks on Afghanistan, Karachi radio reported. While in Moscow, Khan held talks with USSR Foreign Ministry officials, including Deputy Foreign Minister Viktor Komlektov and with CPSU Central Committee member Georgiy Korniyenko, during a luncheon.

Iran-Iraq War

A source "close" to the UN secretary general has disclosed that the latter's statements on the Iran-Iraq war have been "distorted" by Rabat radio, IRNA reported 3 May. The source added that the UN secretary general announced in an interview 1 month ago that Iran had rejected his 8-point plan due to Iraq's insistence on a cease-fire as a precondition for holding talks.

With regard to military strategy, Iraqi President Saddam Husayn revealed a "new approach" aimed at destroying the Iranian Army "everywhere," in Dezful, Khorramshahr, or in

"any" area of Iran as long as the war continues and Iranians occupy Iraqi territory, according to INA.

As for combat developments, a military report cited by IRNA claimed that over 4,000 Iraqis were killed or wounded in an Iranian attack 2 May in the Faqqeh region, inside Iran's Khuzestan Province. The report also asserted that more than 76 Iraqi tanks, 110 personnel carriers, and a large amount of equipment were destroyed. On the other hand, a communique carried by Voice of the Masses radio 2 May contended that Iran sustained 2,730 casualties during Iraq's recent "triumphant" offensive in that region.

Another communique broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio 3 May announced that over 750 Iranians were killed or wounded after an Iranian counterattack in the East Maysan sector was thwarted during 2-3 May. Further south, more than 100 Iranians were killed in the Al-Faw area during 3 unsuccessful Iranian attacks, the communique added, while the 2 May communique reported over 50 Iranian dead due to various Iraqi fire in the same sector. Conversely, in a 4 May report, Tehran radio noted a "limited" Iranian offensive in the Al-Faw region against Iraqi tank positions resulting in the destruction of several of them.

In further reportage on the 1 May attack on a Saudi oil tanker off the Abu Dhabi coast, the Bahrain paper *GULF DAILY NEWS* asserted that an Iranian aircraft carried out the raid.

Libya

In a statement broadcast by Tripoli television 4 May, Colonel Mu'ammarr al-Qadhafi urged the Japanese people to stage mass demonstrations in order to prevent President Reagan's arrival in Japan and cause the cancellation of the Tokyo summit. The television also broadcast his interview with a Japanese television correspondent in which Al-Qadhafi said he was "surprised" that the conferees in Tokyo should discuss terrorism with "the No 1 terrorist, mad Reagan, who should be in the dock and be tried for a crime against the whole of mankind."

In other developments, Al-Qadhafi received Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi in Tripoli 4 May, Tripoli television noted. Armed Forces Commander Brigadier General Abu Bakr Yunis Jabir received a Sudanese military delegation headed by the Sudanese Armed Forces commander, Voice of Greater Arab Homeland radio noted, adding that the visitors conveyed messages expressing Sudan's support for Libya against any "aggression."

Sudan

A Democratic Unionist Party (DUP) official announced the political composition of the new government in a statement reported by SUNA 4 May, disclosing that the Al-Ummah National Party will receive eight portfolios, the DUP will have

six, and four will go to other parties. The Islamic National Front (INF) was not included in this list, but the official disclosed that the two largest parties will concede one portfolio each to the INF if the latter agrees to participate in the government. Earlier, an INF official told SUNA that his party will not participate in the government if the National Charter fails to take shari'ah law into account.

As for the southern problem, Prime Minister-designate Sadiq al-Mahdi disclosed in remarks reported by MENA that he is considering a proposal by SPLA leader John Garang for a meeting. Meanwhile, the defense minister told the UAE's *AL-KHALIJ* that the military situation in the south is "relatively stable" and he claimed that the Armed Forces could recapture Rumbek at any time, according to WAM. On the other hand, the clandestine SPLA radio maintained that the government's attempt to retake Rumbek is in "deep trouble" and that government troops are currently 60 miles from the city.

Egypt

Islamic extremist groups may have obtained some of the 20,000 weapons missing from police camps in Asyut following the February riots, according to a *ROSE AL-YUSUF* report cited by Voice of Lebanon radio.

In other developments, the UAE paper *AL-ITTihad* reported that Egypt has rejected a PLO request to open offices in a number of Egyptian cities and to publicly engage in political activity. The paper claimed that Egypt based its decision on the "current political situation" which precludes a "development of relations," although noting that the government affirmed its intention to continue to give the PLO "total political support."

Syria

Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam was wounded in an "assassination attempt" in Damascus last week according to a "high-level" source cited by the UAE paper *AL-ITTihad*. The source added that Khaddam's driver was killed and two others were wounded, but did not elaborate on the seriousness of the vice president's wounds although revealing that he was admitted to hospital. In another development, Beirut Voice of Lebanon radio citing "diplomatic sources" in Damascus reported that demonstrations took place in Tartus and Latakia last week calling for the return of Rif'at al-Asad. The sources alleged that the protests are the result of "tension" between al-Asad and Khaddam, and asserted that the latter is striving to "keep Al-Asad away."

FBIS**DAILY REPORT
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Karmal Resigns PDPA General Secretary Post

Health Reasons Cited

AU041550 Paris AFP in English 1541 GMT 4 May 86

[Text] Islamabad, May 4 (AFP) — Afghan President Babrak Karmal stepped down Sunday as head of the Afghan Communist Party, TASS reported here, but he retains the lesser position of president of the Revolutionary Council, Radio Kabul monitored here, reported Sunday. The state-run radio said Mr. Karmal had been replaced by Dr. Najibullah. Mr. Karmal, who had returned from a month-long stay in the Soviet Union, has been ill and he expressed his inability to continue as Afghan ruler on health grounds, the radio said.

It said prime minister Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand read out Mr. Karmal's statement at the plenum of the ruling party which unanimously elected Dr. Najibullah as his successor.

Mr. Karmal, aged 57, had come to power in the wake of the Soviet invasion in December 1979. He was the longest-serving communist ruler in Afghanistan.

Kabul Reports CC Plenum Meeting

LD041732 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 4 May 86

[Text] The 18th PDPA Central Committee Plenum was held today, 4 May, under the chairmanship of the Keshtmand, member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the DRA Council of Ministers, and discussed organizational matters. The plenum read and discussed the proposal of Comrade Babrak Karmal concerning his resignation from the post of general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee.

Saleh Mohammad Ziray, member of the Political Bureau and secretary of the Central Committee; Abdul Rashid Arain, member of the Central Committee responsible for the Party Control Committee and deputy chairman of the Revolutionary Council; Abdul Majid Sarboland, member of the Central Committee and deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers; Major General Muhammad Afzal Loddin, candidate member of the Central Committee and commander of the Central Military Corps; Fazal Ahmad Toghian, candidate member of the Central Committee and chairman of the Executive Committee of Kabul city's People's Representative Council; and Abdul Rashid Majedi, candidate member of the Central Committee and deputy minister of nationalities and tribal affairs spoke and approved the proposal of Comrade Babrak Karmal.

After talks and discussion in a completely free and democratic atmosphere the participants voted and accepted the resignation of Comrade Babrak Karmal because of health reasons.

The PDPA Plenum expressed appreciation to Comrade Babrak Karmal for performing his duties over several years as general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and for his part in the victory of April Revolution. The plenum wished him success in his duties as president of the DRA Revolutionary Council and member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo.

The PDPA Central Committee Plenum discussed the proposal of the PDPA Central Committee Political Bureau, submitted by Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand, to appoint Comrade Najibullah general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee.

Nur Ahmad Nur, member of the Politburo and secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and deputy chairman of the DRA Revolutionary Council; Abdozzuhor Razmjo, candidate member of the Central Committee Politburo and secretary of the Kabul City Party Committee; Mir Saheb Karwal, secretary of the PDPA Central Committee; Niaz Mohammad Mohmand, secretary of the PDPA Central Committee; Gol Dad, member of the PDPA Central Committee and deputy chairman of Council of Ministers; Major General Shahnawaz Tanay, member of the PDPA Central Committee and DRA Chief of General Staff; Nezamoddin Tahzib, member of the PDPA Central Committee and head of the DRA Supreme Court; Ahmad Shah Sorkhabi, member of the PDPA Central Committee and minister of irrigation and water resources; Gholam Dastagir Panjsheri, member of the PDPA Central Committee and chairman of the DRA Union of Writers and Poets; Abjol Satar Pordeli, member of the PDPA Central Committee and head of the Central Council of DRA Trade Unions; Farid Ahmad Mozdak, candidate member of the PDPA Central Committee and first secretary of the Democratic Youth of Afghanistan expressed their views and voted.

The plenum unanimously appointed Comrade Najib as general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee. At the end of the meeting Comrade Najib made a short speech and expressed gratitude for the trust of the PDPA Central Committee.

'Text' of Resignation Statement

LD041918 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1630 GMT 4 May 86

["Text" of proposal submitted by Babrak Karmal on his resignation as general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee, at 4 May Central Committee Plenum — announcer-read]

[Text] Comrades: After much thinking, I have decided, due to my perception of my responsibilities and because of health reasons, and after a careful assessment of my possibilities and of the issues and international problems, to request that you accept my resignation from the position of general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee.

In view of your positive decision I want to express my gratitude to the cofighting party comrades, including the leadership group, cadres, and ranks who have cooperated collectively and with sacrifices in strengthening the party ranks.

All my devout and conscious life has been devoted to the party, to the revolution, to the toiling and noble people of Afghanistan, and to the proud and beloved homeland — Afghanistan. At this moment I believe that the leadership of the PDPA will perfect the prideful and heroic tradition of our party.

I invite you, party comrades, to hold dear the unity of the party ranks, like the apple of your eye, and protect it. Respect the unity

and solidarity of the party, the unity of the people of all nationalities, tribes and clans of our united homeland — beloved Afghanistan — on the basis of equal rights and with a revolutionary, patriotic, and internationalist spirit.

I once more urge the party and all the toiling and free-born people of Afghanistan, with all respect and humility, to profoundly broaden the historic and eternal Afghan-Soviet friendship as the infallible national principle of Afghanistan, which is the strong foundation for all of our victories and valuable national wealth, and safeguard it for ever.

I regard it as my national and international duty to express once more my profound gratitude to the party and government leadership and to the great Soviet people for their all-round and internationalist and selfless assistance to our persecuted people.

You must fight with all your power and energy and with decisive confidence for the victory of the April Revolution, for the final victory of the national, democratic, [words indistinct] imperialist revolution, at this historic stage, on the basis of the conference documents, party plenums, the theses dated 9 November 1985, and the resolutions of the DRA Revolutionary Council and 16th Plenum.

In this just struggle against the undeclared war of reaction, imperialism, and the counterrevolutionaries you must forge ahead with decisiveness and courage for the restoration of peace and nationwide national security in our beloved country.

Comrades: As a member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo, as president of the Revolutionary Council, and as president of the DRA Revolutionary Council Presidium, I state once again that I will devote all my life, energy and possibilities, and my long experience of over 37 years of revolutionary struggle on the basis of revolutionary theory and its application in the particular historic conditions of the country, for peace, freedom, progress, and the prosperity of the toiling and courageous Afghan people, for the construction of a new society of revolutionary Afghanistan, for the consolidation of the further unity of the party, and for the final victory of the April Revolution.

I will sacrifice my life and blood for the prosperity of the people and for our beloved homeland — new and revolutionary Afghanistan.

With all respect, Babrak Karmal

Keshmand Speech at PDPA Plenum

*LD042006 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1630 GMT
4 May 86*

[Speech by Solyan 'Ali Keshmand, member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo, chairman of the DPA Council of Ministers at 4 May PDPA Central Committee Plenum — announcer-read]

[Text] Comrades and members of the Central Committee: Our plenum is being conducted in a climate of complete unity of views. The proposal of Comrade Babrak Karmal concerning his

resignation from the post of general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee because of his health was unanimously approved. Allow me, on behalf of the plenum, to express appreciation to Comrade Babrak Karmal for his work of many years in the top party role and for his competent role in the evolution of the April Revolution, and to wish him health and successful work in the DRA Revolutionary Council.

Comrade members of the Central Committee: In our party a large number of talented leading cadres have been trained and are carrying out duties in the high positions of the Central Committee, government, and Armed Forces. The Central Committee Politburo, with a feeling of great responsibility to party and people and with an exact understanding of the importance of the post of general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee, and after an all-round assessment, are proposing that Comrade Najib be elected to this post.

Comrade Najib enjoys a great and good reputation among the members of the party and the people. Throughout his adult life he has been a model of servitude to the PDPA and to our people. Most of the comrades present are personally familiar with the revolutionary activity of Comrade Najib from his educational years onward. In accordance with the instructions of the Central Committee Politburo, Comrade Najib together with Comrade Karmal has played an important part in the organization and evolution of the organizational structure of party. The revolutionary talent of Comrade Najib became outstanding in the post of head of the State Information Service [KHAD]. He established this organization under the leadership of the Central Committee and with the cooperation of party officials, and prepared the ground for the State Information Service to be transformed into a powerful and influential weapon of the April Revolution and a firm defender of the new society against the aggression of imperialism, regional reaction, and internal counterrevolutionaries.

Comrade Najib has played a competent part in the creation of the modern DRA Armed Forces.

The 16th PDPA Central Committee Plenum, taking a principled view, and taking into account the all-around energy and knowledge of Comrade Najib, unanimously elected him Central Committee secretary. The Politburo gave to Comrade Najib difficult and decisive sections such as party organizational matters and military issues. We can see that he has worked with self-sacrifice in this sphere. Comrade Najib has worked successfully with the tribes and nationalities and is enjoying a noticeable [words indistinct] among their leaders and elders.

One of the outstanding qualities of Comrade Najib, who has been a member of the Politburo since 1981, is his belief in collective and consultative leadership and his respectful approach to the views of the party comrades and members of the Central Committee. Comrade Najib listens with attention to the demands, proposals, and criticism of members of party, youth and women's organizations, representative of peasants, workers, and intellectuals, and private investors.

Comrade Najib is a faithful son of the people of Afghanistan and is an experienced soldier of his party. He is a relentless inter-

nationalist and a firm friend of the Soviet Union. He was a member of the official DRA delegation to the 27th CPSU Congress.

The Central Committee Politburo believes that Comrade Najib deserves the trust of the party and will be able to carry out the duties of general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee successfully and smoothly. All members of the Central Committee will undoubtedly support him in his honorable work on the interest of our people.

Najibullah Addresses Central Committee

*LD042007 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1630 GMT
4 May 86*

[Speech by Comrade Najibullah, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee, to the 18th Plenum of the PDPA Central Committee on 4 May — announcer-read]

[Text] Esteemed comrades of the Politburo and members of the PDPA Central Committee. Allow me to express thanks and appreciation for the services of esteemed Comrade Babrak Karmal in establishing, strengthening, and developing the party and for his services to the April Revolution; and my sincere and warm thanks for the great trust expressed my election as general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee, which I will (?regard) as a party honor and the supreme trust and confidence of my party.

I fully realize the great burden of this responsibility which has been entrusted to me by you comrades. I assure you, comrades, and undertake to make efforts to realize the aspirations and objectives of my beloved party and of the April Revolution by unswervingly observing the tested progressive and revolutionary principles which have shown us the governing laws and the direction of revolutionary struggle, the construction of new society, and the ways and means of achieving it under the present conditions of the country as a humble soldier of the party with the support, will, and wisdom of all party members, its Central Committee, and Politburo.

I will consistently follow the golden principles of the DRA's domestic and foreign policy and will spent all energy, power, wisdom and knowledge in this way. I will regard the consolidation of unity and solidarity of the party rank and file as a supreme duty and will dedicate all my efforts to achieving this. The unity of thought and action of the party members is a great force and guarantor of victory and enhances our party's leading role.

Our party will continue unswervingly and consistently to implement the resolutions and decisions of the 16th and 17th PDPA Central Committee Plenums and the 10 Theses of the Revolutionary Council. Together with the mobilization of all factors, it will continue to accelerate, expand, and consolidate the social bases of the people's revolutionary power and provide for possibilities for the active participation of workers, peasants, tradesmen, intelligentsia, private [words indistinct], national traders, clergy, women, youth, and representatives of all nationalities, tribes, and clans of the country in social and state affairs.

Comrades, the strengthening of the DRA Armed Forces and enhancement of their combat capabilities will be first among party and state tasks in order to intensify the struggle against the undeclared war in the country, end bloodshed, and establish peace and tranquillity in the homeland. The further strengthening and all-round enrichment of our friendship with our great neighbor, the Soviet Union, the party of the great Lenin and its heroic sincere, and sympathetic people constitutes the basis of our work.

The PDPA consistently and unswervingly will continue its friendship and cooperation with the fraternal parties and the socialist countries and will consolidate its friendly relations with nonaligned countries and all parties and organizations fighting for the peace and progress of the mankind. The present conditions and situation require all party members to actively work and struggle under the banner of our beloved party for the implementation of the lofty and humane aspirations of the PDPA and the April Revolution in one untied and comradely collective, with revolutionary optimism, with the realization of the need for the new type work, with love for the toiling people and in service to the people and the homeland.

While expressing thanks from the bottom of my heart for the warm and sincere words of Comrade Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand, which he expressed on behalf of the party Politburo, I once again express thanks for the sincere support and help of your comrades, and assure the party Central Committee and its Politburo and all party members that I will use all of my ability and energy for this great (?task) and to make myself worthy of this great trust.

Biography of Najibullah

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4 May 86*

[Text] Biography of Comrade Najibullah, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee: Comrade Najib born in 1947, the son of a government employee. He is of the Pashtun nationality. He graduated from Habibiya Lycee in 1964, and completed his higher education at the Medical Faculty of Kabul University in 1975.

In 1965, Comrade Najibullah gained PDPA membership and was imprisoned twice because of his active participation in the revolutionary struggle against the feudal and bureaucratic regime.

Ever since the beginning of the April Revolution, Comrade Najibullah has been carrying out productive work for (?stabilization) and consolidation of national sovereignty, and progressive socioeconomic transformation.

In 1978 Comrade Najibullah was engaged in diplomatic duties. In 1979, as an experience party worker, he was appointed general head of the State Information Service [KHAD], by the PDPA Central Committee.

Comrade Najibullah has the military rank of major general and because of worthy services he was honored and received state medals.

Since 1977 Comrade Najibullah has been a member of the PDPA Central Committee and since 1981 he has been a member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo. Comrade Najibullah is member of the DRA Revolutionary Council. He was appointed secretary of the PDPA Central Committee by the 16th Plenum of the PDPA Central Committee. At the 18th PDPA Central Committee Plenum, Comrade Najibullah was elected general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee.

Rebel Leader Expects Increased Military Action

BK050908 Hong Kong AFP in English 0856 GMT 5 May 86

[Text] Islamabad, May 5 (AFP) — The resignation by Babrak Karmal as secretary-general of the Afghan Communist Party does not reflect a change in the Soviet Union's policy there, a guerrilla leader said here Monday. Mr. Karmal, who remains Afghan president, stepped down Sunday as head of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, and was succeeded by Muhammad Najibullah, formerly head of the secret police.

Burhanuddin Rabbani, spokesman here of the largest coalition of guerrillas movements, commenting on the news, said: "It is just changing one Soviet pawn for another. There is no real change." He added: "This kind of change is natural in a regime of puppets. They name somebody for a certain time and then they

throw him away as a waste commodity." Mr. Rabbani is the leader of the Jamiyat-e Islami movement, one of the largest of seven components in the guerrilla coalition of which he is also the spokesman. "As long as Soviet forces are in Afghanistan, it hardly matters who is in or out," he said.

In a statement he read at a press conference, he considered that the choice of Mr. Najibullah meant an increase of military action against the guerrillas, because the new secretary-general is "young, active and even efficient up to a point."

He rejected the theory that Mr. Karmal was in political disgrace, pointing out that if this were the case, his successor would have been drawn from the rival Khalq faction, opposed to Mr. Karmal's Parcham (flag) faction, which are both members of the ruling party. "Najibullah is like a son to Karmal, and is very loyal to him and to the Soviets," he said.

Mr. Rabbani said that he believed Mr. Karmal's resignation from the post of secretary-general was mainly due to "serious illness, probably leukemia."

Western diplomat sources in Islamabad said Mr. Najibullah was "very pro-Moscow" and agreed that Mr. Karmal probably stepped down for health reasons.

Further Reportage on Upcoming Parliamentary Elections**Regulation Bans Anti-Election Activity***BK031608 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 3 May 86*

[Text] A martial law regulation has been issued prohibiting anti-election propaganda and activities. Under the regulation, no newspaper or document shall print, publish, or contain any news or views against the holding of elections to parliament or prejudicial to such election.

No person shall also publish, distribute, or display any leaflet, placard or poster against the holding of elections to parliament or propagate by any means any opinion against the holding of such elections. No person shall act in any manner which will directly or indirectly hamper or likely to hamper holding of elections to parliament. Whoever contravenes the provisions of this regulation shall be punishable with rigorous imprisonment for a term which may extend to 7 years.

Election Commission Gives Details*BK031627 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 3 May 86*

[Text] There will be a ban on all public meetings and processions for a period of 48 hours throughout the country from the midnight following Monday [5 May] to the midnight following Wednesday for smooth holding of Jatiya Sangsad [Parliament] elections.

In a press release in Dhaka today the Election Commission said no person shall convene, hold or attend any public meeting, and no person shall promote or join in any procession within the area of any constituency where elections to Jatiya Sangsad will be held. Any person contravening the ban shall be punishable with rigorous imprisonment up to 6 months or with fine up to 1,000 taka or with both under the representation of the people order 1972.

Police, Demonstrators Clash*BK031657 Hong Kong AFP in English 1650 GMT 3 May 86*

[Text] Dhaka, May 3 (AFP) — Police baton-charged anti-election demonstrators here Saturday and arrested 31 people trying to hold a rally, eyewitnesses and police said. The rally was called by the Bangladesh National Party (BNP) and its allies in the seven-party alliance opposing Wednesday's parliamentary polls to be held under martial law.

Groups of demonstrators shouting anti-election slogans had tried to assemble at Baitul Mukarram Square in the city centre in defiance of a martial law ban on anti-election activities, police said.

According to eyewitness militant demonstrators in small groups threw stones at the police who resorted to baton-charges. Fire-crackers were thrown during a nearly two and a half hour battle between police and demonstrators.

Earlier BNP sources had claimed that anti-election opposition leader Begum Khaleda Zia, whose whereabouts remain a mystery, amid conflicting reports of her arrest or that she is in hiding, might take part in the attempted rally. But neither Mrs. Zia nor any senior leaders of the BNP or the seven-party alliance were seen, police and eyewitnesses said. However, BNP sources said Shah Alam, treasurer of the party, was among those arrested.

Meanwhile, the government Saturday tightened measures against anti-election activities by issuing a martial law regulation banning all anti-election demonstrations. The regulation issued by the President and chief martial law administrator, Hussain Mohammad Ershad, provides for seven years imprisonment for printing or publishing any news or views against the election as well as for organising or participating in any meetings or demonstrations opposing the polls.

The BNP and its allies have called for a boycott of the polls which they said would not be free and fair under the martial law regime of President Ershad. But the Awami League, one of the country's largest political parties, together with at least seven allied groups have joined the ballot, reversing their earlier stand to boycott the polls. Also contesting the polls are the right-wing fundamentalist Jami'at-e Islami Party, besides the government backed National (Jatiyo) Party.

In all 1,527 candidates, from different political parties and including some individuals, are seeking election to the 300-seat parliament.

National polls in Bangladesh have been postponed three times in the past two years in the face of opposition boycott threats.

Dhaka University Demonstrators Arrested*BK040824 Hong Kong AFP in English 0819 GMT 4 Apr 86*

[Text] Dhaka, May 4 (AFP) — Police baton-charged some 200 anti-election demonstrators as they assembled at Dhaka University Sunday, eyewitnesses said. Several firecrackers and stones were thrown at police who fired shots in the air and charged, the witnesses said.

Police threw stones at reporters and photographers to try to stop them covering the anti-election demonstration. Such demonstrations have been banned under martial law.

Parliamentary elections are to be held here Wednesday, the first time for seven years, but a seven-party alliance has called for a boycott. The alliance says free and honest elections cannot be held under the martial law regime of President Hussain Mohammad Ershad.

Opposition sources said up to 50 people were arrested on Saturday in a similar attempt to hold a demonstration in the city centre. Official confirmation of arrests is very rarely given by the authorities here.

Khaleda Zia's Whereabouts Unknown

*BK030859 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT
3 May 86*

[Text] In Bangladesh, the whereabouts of the Nationalist Party leader, Begum Khaleda Zia, have been shrouded in mystery for the last 2 days. She was intercepted by the police on Wednesday night while returning to Dhaka after a meeting in Jamalpur.

According to the police, she was allowed to proceed to Dhaka in a jeep while some of her companions were detained, but she has not reached her residence so far. The Bangladesh Government has denied reports of her arrest. All India Radio Dhaka correspondent Prabhakar Mishra reports that the confusion has been confounded with Begum Zia's household express in anxiety over her mysterious disappearance.

Khaleda Zia Reportedly Under House Arrest

BK050932 Hong Kong AFP in English 0924 GMT 5 May 86

[Text] Dhaka, May 5 (AFP) — Clashes between rival supporters left at least four dead and up to 200 injured in Bangladesh since Sunday in the run-up to Wednesday's general election, reports said Monday.

A top opposition leader, Begum Khaleda Zia, who heads a seven-party alliance and is spearheading a drive against the election being held under martial law, was put under house arrest Monday at her home in Dhaka's military cantonment, her son Tarek Rahman told reporters at the National Press Club.

Reports reaching here said widespread violence had erupted in several constituencies where bombs had been thrown and shots fired.

Press reports Monday said one person was killed Sunday in the southeastern Chittagong District when supporters of the government-backed Jatiyo (National) Party and an opposition candidate clashed. Several people were also reportedly injured in the same incident.

In the southwestern Khulna District, Jatiyo supporters clashed with opposition Awami League activists leaving one dead and scores injured, reports said. Two people reportedly were killed in Bagerhat, southwest Bangladesh and Narshingdi, near here. People were also reported injured in election violence at Narayanganj, Jessore, Meherpur, Bhola, and Faridpur districts.

Tarek Rahman, the 18-year-old eldest son of Begum Zia and Ziaur Rahman, who was assassinated as president in 1981, said Begum Zia's home had been cordoned off by security people and the telephone cut. The authorities have yet to deny or confirm the arrest. He said security people from the army, police and intelligence services had detained Begum Zia at her house as she tried to walk to a waiting car.

His mother had asked for "written orders" from the authorities. She was shown nothing but had been told "madame, you cannot come out of the house," her son said. She insisted he be allowed to leave and he drove straight to the Press Club.

Begum Zia made a dramatic public reappearance here Sunday after disappearing Wednesday. She said she had been arrested outside Dhaka and held until midday Sunday, but the government has denied she was arrested last week.

Anti-election activity has been banned by the regime of President Hussain Mohammad Ershad.

External Affairs Spokesman on Air Lanka Blast

*BK031559 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT
3 May 86*

[Text] India has expressed deep shock and regret at the tragic loss of innocent lives in an explosion of an Air Lanka aircraft in Colombo today. The External Affairs Ministry spokesman said today that India shares the grief and sorrow of the government and people of Sri Lanka and the members of the families of the deceased. The spokesman said while the exact cause of the explosion is not yet known, India condemns it unequivocally in the even of its having resulted from a terrorist act.

The Indian delegation to Sri Lanka led by the minister of state for personnel, Mr P. Chidambaram, has expressed sympathies to the Sri Lanka Government.

Gandhi Telephones Jayewardene

*BK041615 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT
4 May 86*

[Text] The prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, telephoned the Sri Lankan president, Mr Jayewardene, this morning and conveyed the government of India's [words indistinct] shock and grief at the blast in the Air Lanka jet at Colombo.

Delegation to Sri Lanka Returns to Madras

*BK041439 Delhi General Overseas Service in English
1330 GMT 4 May 86*

[Text] The Indian delegation to Sri Lanka led by the minister of state for personnel [and administrative reforms], Mr Chidambaram, arrived in Madras from Colombo this evening after a 6-day visit to the island. Speaking to newsmen before leaving for New Delhi, Mr Chidambaram said he will report to the prime minister the details of the new formulations given by the Sri Lankan authorities to find a solution to the ethnic problem. He said the delegation had useful discussions with President Jayewardene and other leaders on the problem.

Referring to the bomb blast on the Air Lanka plane in Colombo, he said the delegation was informed of the incident and it expressed deep regret and anguish. Answering questions, he said the team did not have any discussion on the clashes between the militant groups in Sri Lanka.

Further Reportage on Reaction to Temple Raid**Chief Minister Visits Golden Temple**

*BK020945 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT
2 May 86*

[Text] The Punjab chief minister, Mr Surjit Singh Barnala, accompanied by his six cabinet colleagues, visited the Golden Temple complex in Amritsar this afternoon. Mr Barnala and his colleagues, along with a large number of Akali Dal leaders and Shiromani Gurdwara Prabandhak [Sikh temple management] committee officials, went round the parikrama [area surrounding

the shrine] and paid obeisance at the temple's sanctorum. Tight security arrangements were made in and outside the complex. The curfew in the localities around the complex was in force when Mr Barnala visited the temple.

6 Killed in Amritsar

*BK021605 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT
2 May 86*

[Text] In Punjab, six persons were killed and one injured in three different incidents of terrorist activity in Amritsar District last night. Five persons were killed when some suspected terrorists fired indiscriminately in the green market in Tarn Taran. One person was shot dead in a village near Majitha and one was injured in a village near Bhaikavan when gunmen fired at them.

Education, Agriculture Ministers Resign

*BK021619 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT
2 May 86*

[Text] In Punjab two senior members of the Barnala cabinet have resigned. They are the education minister, Mr Sukhjinder Singh and the agriculture minister, Mr Amrinder Singh. They announced their resignations at a news conference in Chandigarh this evening. However, they added that they will continue to be the members of the Akali Dal legislature party.

The former chief minister, Mr Parkash Singh Badal, and the former SGPC [Shiromani Gurdwara Prabandhak Committee] chief, Mr Gurcharan Singh Tohra, who were also present at the press conference, announced their resignations from the working committee of the Akali Dal.

In a joint statement released to the press, the four leaders said that their resignations are in protest against the entry of police into Darbar Sahib [Golden Temple]. They, however, clarified that the political demand of the Akali Dal has always been the acceptance of the Anandpur Sahib resolutions and that they have always opposed Khalistan. They said that the Akali Dal has made many sacrifices for the independence of the country and the maintenance of national unity, integrity and communal harmony. They will always stand by it.

Meanwhile, the chief minister, Mr Surjit Singh Barnala, has forwarded the resignations of the two ministers to the governor with recommendation to accept them. Talking to All India Radio Chandigarh correspondent, Mr Barnala said both the ministers attended the cabinet meeting yesterday in Chandigarh and fully endorsed the action of the state government to flush out terrorists, extremists, and anti-Panthic [anti-Sikh] forces from the Golden Temple complex. Mr Barnala described the resignations as an afterthought and harmful to the interest of the party, the state, and the nation.

Mr Barnala said during his visit to Amritsar today, he met the Akal Takht [highest seat of the Sikh religion] chief, Jathedar Kripal Singh; the head priest of the Golden Temple, Giani Sahib Singh; and the head priest of Akal Takht, Giani Pritam Singh. They fully endorsed the action taken by him to evict the anti-

Panthic forces from the Golden Temple complex. In a joint statement in Amritsar, they described it as an act which fulfilled the wish of Sikh Panth.

The Punjab chief minister, Mr Surjit Singh Barnala, accompanied by his cabinet colleagues and a large number of MLA's [members of the legislative assembly] visited the Golden Temple in Amritsar today. Later, talking to newsmen the chief minister said that he has come to Darbar Sahib to offer a grateful prayers for the completion of task assigned to his government. The task assigned at the Sarbat Khalsa [Sikh religious congregation] at Anandpur Sahib in February was to clear the Golden Temple of terrorists and anti-national elements.

Mr Barnala said the action had to be taken after the methods of persuasion failed. He said the government is taking measures to ensure that such elements do not come back to the Golden Temple. He also said that the government is taking steps to apprehend the antisocial and anti-national elements in the state.

Sikh Leaders Criticize Resignations

*BK031647 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT
3 May 86*

[Text] Prominent Sikh leaders belonging to various organizations all over the country have criticized Mr Prakash Singh Badal, Mr G.S. Tohra, and others in Punjab for what they called their betrayal of the Barnala government.

In a press release today, they said by their conduct these leaders have shown the rank opportunism and lust for power. They said Mr Badal and others have fallen into the trap of anti-national forces which have captured the Golden Temple through treachery, deceit, and violence.

The statement adds that the Barnala government has not only maintained the high traditions of Sikhism by flushing out the proclaimed offenders from the Golden Temple, but it has strictly complied with the gurmata [resolution] passed by Sarbat Khalsa [highest Sikh congregation] at Anandpur Sahib.

They appealed to the Sikh sangat [community] to stand solidly behind the Barnala government and defeat the forces of communalism and disintegration.

The signatories to the statement include the president, All India Rangreta Dal, Sant Baba Dara Singh; the president of the All India Baba Jiwan Singh Dal, Master Tara Singh Tikka; Bhai Keshav Singh of Bombay Sikh pratinidhi [representative] board; Mr Bhagwan Singh Gulati of Madhya Pradesh Kendriya Guru Singh Sabha [central Sikh association]; Mr Jaswant Singh Kalka, president Delhi Gurdwara Prabandhak [Sikh temple management] committee; Sardar Rattan Singh, president [of] Gurdwara Paunta Sahib; and president [of] Gurdwara Nanak Bata Sahib, Nainital, Mr Gurcharan Singh Roshan.

In another statement, the head priest of Takht Sri Patna Sahib [Sikh temple at Patna], Jathedar Bhai Man Singh, has also expressed similar sentiments.

More Resignations; Violence Continues

*BK030309 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT
3 May 86*

[Text] The Punjab governor, Mr Sidhartha Shanker Ray, has accepted the resignations of two state ministers, Mr Surjinder Singh and Mr Amrinder Singh. They had submitted their resignations last evening in protest against the entry of police in the Golden Temple complex. Their portfolios will be held by the chief minister till alternative arrangements are made. According to UNITED NEWS of INDIA, the Akali Dal senior vice president, Mr Surjan Singh Thekedar, has also announced his resignation from the party post last night for the same reason.

In a joint statement in Amritsar yesterday, the Akal Takht [highest seat of Sikh religion] chief, Jathedar Kripal Singh; the head priest of the Golden Temple, Gian Sahib Singh; and the head priest of the Akal Takht, Giani Pritam Singh, said the action of the state government has fulfilled the wish of the Sikh Panth [religion].

Meanwhile, three persons were killed in two separate shooting incidents in the state last evening. Two of them were killed when two youths fired at them with stenguns in village Memachak near Dera Baba Nanek in Gurdaspur District. One person was shot dead by suspected terrorists in village Bats near Tarn Taran in Amritsar District.

An official spokesman said in Chandigarh that about 250 preventive arrests have been made in different parts of the state during the last 3 days. He said the arrests have been made to thwart any attempt of breach of peace in the state. The Punjab police have also arrested three extremists in Julundur and recovered from them 3 revolvers, 1 sten gun, about 125 different cartridges, and 3 hand grenades.

Tourism Minister Resigns

*BK031309 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT
3 May 86*

[Text] In Punjab the minister of state for tourism and health, Mr Sucha Singh Chotepur, has resigned. Talking to newsmen in Chandigarh today he said his resignation is in protest against the entry of police into the Golden Temple complex. Mr Chotepur has also resigned from the working committee of Akali Dal. Another member of the Akali Dal working committee, Mr Talib Singh Sandhu, has also announced his resignation from the committee.

Four Akali Dal members of Parliament in a statement in New Delhi have criticized the Barnala government for sending the police into the Golden Temple complex.

Three of the four members have also resigned from the offices they were holding in the parliamentary group. The signatories are the deputy leader, Mr Charanjit Singh; the general secretary, Mr Mewa Singh Gill; chief whips, Mr Charanjit Singh Walia and Mr Sammindar Singh.

Major Parties Support Barnala

*BK031615 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT
3 May 86*

[Text] Four major political parties in Punjab have announced their support to the Barnala government to tide over the current crisis in the ministry following the resignation of some ministers. Agency reports from Chandigarh say a consensus to this effect was arrived at the meeting of the informal group of political leaders of these parties. The state governor, Mr Siddharta Shankar Ray, was also present. The political parties are: the Congress-I, CPI, CPI-M, and the Bharatiya Janata Party.

Barnala Urges Unity

*BK040344 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT
4 May 86*

[Text] The Punjab chief minister, Mr Surjit Singh Barnala, has appealed to Akali Dal legislators and other party leaders not to play into the hands of those whose only aim is to weaken the party. In a statement in Chandigarh this morning, he said such elements are only trying to help the forces indulging in terrorist, anti-national and anti-Panthic [anti-Sikh] activities. Mr Barnala said that the unity in the party has become all the more important at this juncture when the Akali Dal is engaged in assertively meeting the challenge posed by forces of destabilization.

The Punjab governor, Mr Siddharta Shankar Ray, has accepted the resignation of the minister of state for tourism, Mr Sucha Singh Chotepur. The resignation was accepted last night following the recommendation of the chief minister, Mr Surjit Singh Barnala. Mr Chotepur has resigned in protest against the police entry into the Golden Temple complex.

As already reported, all major political parties in Punjab have offered full support to the Barnala government, both in and outside the assembly. A consensus to this effect was reached at a meeting of informal groups of senior leaders of these political parties held in Chandigarh last evening. Those who attended the meeting are the Congress-I president, Mr Beant Singh; its general secretary, Mr Gurdip Singh; Bharatiya Janata Party general secretary, Mr (Cheta Bilasi); secretary of CPI, Mr Avtar Singh Malhotra; and Akali Dal general secretary, Mr Manjit Singh Khara. The meeting fully endorsed the action taken by the Punjab government against the secessionist and anti-national elements who had intruded into the Golden Temple complex.

In Punjab, one person was shot dead yesterday by two scooter borne suspected terrorists near village Wana in Faridkot District. The victim was traveling on a scooter when he was attacked.

Dissidents Issue Statement

*BK041635 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT
4 May 86*

[Text] In Chandigarh the former Punjab chief minister, Mr Prakash Singh Badal, today released to the press a statement signed by 29 Akali Dal legislators criticizing the Barnala government for sending the police into the Golden Temple complex. The

statement described the action as a blot on the glorious history of the party. The signatories include the ministers who recently resigned their posts and the former minister, Mr Balwinder Singh Bunder.

In reply to a question, Mr Badal said these legislators have only expressed their sentiments and it does amount to a revolt in the party. One party legislator, Mr Purshottam Singh, has denied having signed the statement. He told newsmen at the chief minister's residence this evening that he fully supported Mr Barnala.

Talking to newsmen this evening, the chief minister said any effort to divide the Akali Dal should be resisted. He reiterated that the action to oust terrorists, anti-national elements and anti-Panthic [anti-Sikh] elements from the Golden Temple was taken under the directive given to him by the Sarbat Khalsa [highest Sikh congregation] held at Anandpur Sahib. He said that the action had the full approval of the cabinet, the Akali Dal legislature party and working committee and the Sikh community. He regretted that some party leaders have gone to the press instead of putting their viewpoints before the party. In reply to a question, Mr Barnala did not rule out the possibility of disciplinary action against such partymen. The chief minister claimed that at least 54 Akali legislators have fully supported the police action. He claimed that he has sufficient support in the Akali Dal legislature party.

The state Congress-I chief, Mr Beant Singh, has criticized the resignation of some Akali leaders in protest against the police action. Addressing a news conference in Bhatinda today, he said this would only help anti-national forces and foreign elements to destabilize the country. Supporting the police action to flush out the terrorists, Mr Beant Singh said hardened criminals had declared the establishment of so-called Khalistan and the state government did what any government would have done under such circumstances. He extended his party's full support to the Barnala government in fighting secessionist and communal forces.

Punjab Cabinet To Be Expanded

*BK050305 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT
5 May 86*

[Text] The Akali ministry in Punjab is being expanded tomorrow. The chief minister, Mr Surjit Singh Barnala, told the All India Radio correspondent, P.J.S. Trehan, this morning that the expansion will be carried out in two or three phases beginning tomorrow. Our correspondent points out that the chief minister had hinted at the expansion of his ministry a number of times earlier, but the recent resignation of three ministers seems to have hastened the process. Before the resignations, Mr Barnala's cabinet had 10 ministers.

Meanwhile, seven persons, including a suspected terrorist, were shot dead and three injured in four separate incidents of terrorist activities since last evening in the state. Four persons, including a farmer and two sons of a family, were shot dead when suspected terrorists fired at them in village Khujawal near Batala in Gurdaspur District. The victims were in the fields when they were

attacked. One person was killed in village Lalpura and another in village Mamori, both in Tarn Taran in Amritsar District, when five car-borne terrorists shot at them.

In the third incident, two persons were injured when three jeep-borne terrorists opened fire at a village near Zira in Ferozepore District.

In the fourth incident in Jullundur, a terrorist was killed in an exchange of fire with the police in the cantonment area.

The terrorist had earlier shot and injured a person near a bus station.

Allegations of Funding Pakistani Party Rejected

*BK021358 Delhi General Overseas Service in English
1330 GMT 2 May 86*

[Text] The spokesman of the External Affairs Ministry said in New Delhi today that India has duly noted allegations reported to have been made by the works minister of Pakistan [title as heard], Mr Saifullah Khan, that India is providing funds to the Pakistan People's Party.

The spokesman said in response to a query that we are surprised that a responsible minister of Pakistan Government should have made such allegations which are totally baseless.

President on Islamic, Parliamentary Systems

*BK291000 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT
28 Apr 86*

[Text] President Mohammad Ziaul Haq has declared that neither the people nor the government will allow damage to the ideological frontiers of the country. Addressing a gathering at Mehsinabad, about a 100 km from Bahawalpur today, he said Pakistan is an ideological state and it will sustain on this foundation. He said the country was passing through a critical phase as some political elements were saying that Islam was not the sole objective of the creation of Pakistan.

The president said over the past 9 years the government had made all-out efforts to enforce and strengthen Islamic system in the country. A democratic government had been set up and after lifting of martial law, political activities had been restored, fundamental rights revived, and emergency withdrawn. A foundation of Islamic democratic system in the country had been laid and we had elections. The first and important step in the chain was the revival of the local body system and holding elections under it twice. The destiny of the nation lay in the hands of the elected representatives in the senate and national and provincial assemblies. He asked the people to let the present elected government complete its tenure up to 1990 when they would be free to elect a change or new representatives in the elections.

President Mohammad Ziaul Haq urged the people to shun politics of jalsa and jaloos [rallies and processions] and work with dedication for the development of the country. He said the Islamic system was being enforced gradually.

Referring to local problems, the president said eradication of water logging and salinity in Liaquatpur area have been included in the [name indistinct] project which was being carried out by the federal government. Other local problems are also being tackled at the federal and provincial level. The president asked the federal planning minister, Dr Mahbubul Haq, to review the problems which fall under the purview of the federal government and those under the provincial governments so that these may be solved effectively.

Later, talking to newsmen at Multan airport, the president said the democratic system in the country was functioning very successfully at present and midterm elections could not be held on the demand of some street demonstrations. He said in a parliamentary form of government the prime minister had the sole authority to ask for early elections if he so desired. The president said the Constitution provides for the holding of elections after 5 years. However, the prime minister could present himself before the people in fresh elections a short time before the end of the tenure of parliament. He said since it was an elected government it could serve as a ladder for achieving the goal of bringing about Islamic system through evolutionary and gradual process. He was sure it would succeed in its efforts.

He emphasized the need for safeguarding the integrity and solidarity of the country which is a citadel of Islam. A lot of work had been done toward the enforcement of Islamic system and more steps would be taken after passing of the ninth amendment bill which would be introduced in the National Assembly and

Senate soon.

President Mohammad Ziaul Haq said under the parliamentary system political parties were essential, but they could not play their role unless they inculcate the spirit of democracy in themselves. The unregistered political parties could take part in political activities but they could not take part in the elections. He said the national press should evaluate and assess the real measure of democracy in the country. There was no martial law and no emergency but a genuine democratic order in evidence in Pakistan.

In reply to a question the president said Pakistan's relations with Libya were very good and it is our policy to improve our relations including those with our neighbors on the basis of equality and dignity.

In reply to another question the president said negotiations were being held with France for the supply of a nuclear reprocessing plant as promised by it or to pay compensation.

The federal ministers Mr Mohammad Khagan Abbasi and Dr Mahbubul Haq were also present on the occasion. Replying to a question the minister for planning and development said efforts would be made in the new budget to bring down the cost of living in the country. He said our growth rate has been about 7 percent and the rate of inflation is less than that of last year.

Yaqub Khan Leaves for Geneva, Afghanistan Talks

*BK040640 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0600 GMT
4 May 86*

[Text] Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan left Islamabad for Geneva this morning to lead the Pakistani delegation at the seventh round of indirect talks on Afghanistan beginning tomorrow.

Talking to newsmen at the airport, he said that Pakistan will participate in the talks with the clear and sincere determination to see a comprehensive and mutually acceptable political settlement of the Afghanistan issue as early as possible. The fact that we will be discussing the fourth instrument, in which a firm assurance will be enshrined relating to an appropriate and reasonable timetable for a Soviet troop withdrawal from Afghanistan, is a positive step. Despite this, the difficulties and complications in the discussions cannot be taken lightly, he added. Pakistan is participating in the present round of talks with a constructive and sincere attitude. He said: Although there are difficult stages, the progress achieved so far, I think, helps in fostering an optimism that the remaining obstacles will also be overcome.

Stops Over in Moscow

*BK041611 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT
4 May 86*

[Excerpts] Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan left Islamabad for Geneva today to lead the Pakistani delegation at the seventh round of indirect talks on Afghanistan beginning tomorrow.

row. Talking to newsmen at the airport prior to his departure, he said that Pakistan will participate in the talks with a positive attitude and the determination to see a comprehensive and mutually acceptable settlement of the issue as early as possible.

Answering a question relating to the timetable for Soviet withdrawal, the foreign minister said Pakistan's point of view in this regard is that the troop withdrawal should be within months, not years. He said that during the present round of talks, the entire draft will be reviewed.

The foreign minister made a 90-minute stopover at the Moscow airport on his way to Geneva this afternoon. A senior official of the CPSU Central Committee, Georgiy Korniyenko, and Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Viktor Komplektov met the foreign minister at the airport. Other officials of the Soviet Foreign Ministry and Pakistani Ambassador to Moscow Shahid Amin were also present on the occasion. Later, the foreign minister held talks with them during luncheon.

Justice Minister Examines Political Activities

*BK021618 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT
2 May 86*

[Text] Talking to newsmen in Lahore today, federal Minister for Justice and Parliamentary Affairs Iqbal Ahmad Khan said political parties have been given the freedom to continue their political activities within the jurisdiction of the law. Answering a question, he said there is no restriction on political activities, but political parties are required to register themselves in order to be able to contest elections. The parties who fail to register will be barred from contesting future elections.

The justice minister said it is the duty of the political parties and the nation to see what purpose the political activities of a party serve when it is legally disqualified from participating in elections. All political activities are always directed toward an end, to work peacefully within the jurisdiction of the law and to take part in elections with individual programs, and to implement such programs in the event of success in elections. In reply to a question, the justice minister said the political parties act does not violate fundamental rights in any way.

BBC on Rift in Opposition Alliance

*BK031325 London BBC World Service in English
1200 GMT 3 May 86*

[From the "Radio Newsreel" program]

[Text] The Pakistani opposition leader, Miss Benazir Bhutto, is visiting the country's biggest city, Karachi, today — her first visit to her home province since she returned from exile about 3 weeks ago. As Miss Bhutto continues her tour of the country, serious disagreements have appeared within the opposition alliance of which her People's Party is the main member. This report is from Alex Brodie in Islamabad:

[Begin recording] A May Day rally in the frontier city Peshawar held by the 5-year-old opposition alliance, the Movement for the Restoration of Democracy, degenerated into fighting — largely between supporters of Miss Bhutto's People's Party and those of the National Democratic Party, which is strong in the frontier.

After a disagreement over the issue of provincial nationalism following a speaker's call for North-West Frontier Province to be renamed Pashtunistan after the people who live there, People's Party supporters in a minority were chased from the meeting. There was fighting. People's Party flags were burned.

Tension between the allies in the anti-Zia opposition alliance there has always been, but for it to break out into violence at a joint rally must, as a local newspaper commented, gladden the hearts of the opposition's enemies. Already one component party of the opposition alliance has started campaigning against Bhuttoism, and its leader, retired Air Marshal Asghar Khan, is reported to have met General Zia and Prime Minister Junejo in Islamabad. [end recording].

Further Reportage on Italian Under Secretary's Visit

Meets Yaqub Khan

*BK011615 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT
1 May 86*

[Text] Italy's Under Secretary for Foreign Affairs Bruno Corti called on Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan in Islamabad today. They reviewed the regional situation and expressed satisfaction at the current state of relations between the two countries. They also exchanged views on possibilities of increasing bilateral cooperation in the economic and technical fields.

Talking to newsmen on his arrival in Islamabad from Quetta today, the Italian under secretary for foreign affairs said his government thinks highly of diplomatic efforts by Pakistan for a peaceful political settlement of the Afghanistan problem and his country fully supports Pakistan's stand on Afghanistan. It also views with great respect assistance provided by Pakistan to Afghan refugees. He described as excellent the relations between Pakistan and Italy in economic, political, and other fields.

In reply to a question, he said Italy has been providing avenues to Pakistan for the transfer of modern technology. The Italian under secretary for foreign affairs said he would discuss with Pakistani authorities ways to strengthen the existing cooperation between the two countries in various fields.

Calls on President

*BK040222 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT
3 May 86*

[Text] The visiting deputy foreign minister of Italy, Mr Bruno Corti, called on President Mohammad Ziaul Haq in Rawalpindi this evening. He conveyed to him special greetings and message of good wishes from the Italian president. He also discussed regional and bilateral matters with the president. The president

expressed satisfaction on the state of bilateral relations between the two countries.

The Italian deputy foreign minister showed special interest for cooperation in the field of telecommunications. He commended the (?efforts) of Pakistan in looking after a large number of Afghan refugees and lauded Pakistan's principled stand on the Afghanistan issue. He also praised the president's personal efforts for normalization of relations with India and fostering peace in the region. Mr Bruno Corti congratulated the president for the restoration of democratic institutions in Pakistan.

Khunjerab Pass Link to PRC Inaugurated 1 May
BK011115 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT
1 May 86

[Text] The 15,000-foot high Khunjerab Pass linking the northern areas of Pakistan with Xinjiang Province of China was formally opened today to traffic for third countries' nationals. The opening of the pass coincides with the beginning of the tourist season in the northern areas. The federal minister for Kashmir affairs and northern areas, Syed Qasim Shah, led the Pakistan delegation at the inaugural ceremony.

Now described as the eighth wonder of the world, Khunjerab Pass is the terminal of the 800 km Karakoram highway which passes through some of world's most scenic places and rugged terrain. It lies in a region where three of the highest mountain ranges — Himalayas, Karakoram, and Hindu Kush — meet. The highway also passes through some of the largest glaciers of the world outside the polar region.

Pakistan and China have already set up checkpoints on their sides which customs, immigration, and foreign exchange counters to facilitate smooth tourist traffic. The route will operate from May to October every year and during the rest of the period for mail and trade purposes.

Radio Pakistan's representative says the opening of the Khunjerab Pass for the nationals of third countries will add yet another dimension to the existing exemplary Pak-Sino relations with the increased volume of tourist traffic, barter trade, and foreign exchange earnings.

The Karakoram highway has been described by experts as marvel of engineering. Nearly 25,000 experts, engineers, and workers of Pakistan Army and China completed it in more than a decade.

SRI LANKA

Reportage on Bombing of Air Lanka Plane

LTTE Spokesman Denies Involvement

BK030900 Hong Kong AFP in English 0852 GMT 3 May 86

[Text] Madras, India, May 3 (AFP) — A top Tamil separatist group said Saturday that it had no hand in the bomb explosion aboard a Sri Lankan aircraft at Colombo airport which reportedly killed 20 people.

"We are categorically denying any involvement," a spokesman for the Liberation Tiger of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE here.

But three other militant Tamil groups said they were awaiting reports from their "field staff" to know if their guerrillas were behind the explosion at Colombo's Katunayake Airport.

The groups are the Tamil Eelam Liberation Organization (TELO), Eelam Revolutionary Organization of Students (EROS) and the Eelam People's Revolutionary Liberation Front (EPRLF).

"We have no information, and we are not in a position to say if our men were involved," a TELO spokesman said.

"Well, we can tell you that the incident has surprised us, but it is too early to say who did it.... we are checking," an EROS spokesman said. The EPRLF spokesman had a similar reaction.

Meanwhile, the aircraft of the French airline UTA, which was diverted here from Colombo, left for Singapore Saturday after a brief stay, a spokesman for the Madras airport said. The plane was on a scheduled Muscat-Colombo-Singapore run.

'Marxist Terrorists' Responsible

BK031105 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 3 May 86

[Excerpt] Twenty passengers are reported dead and 41 wounded when a time bomb exploded in the tail end of an Air Lanka Tristar at the Colombo airport, Katunayake, this morning. The incident occurred at 10 minutes past 0900 in the aircraft bound for Male. It arrived in Colombo via London, Zurich, and Dubai. The passengers were boarding the aircraft and some of them had already taken their seats when the rear of the plane was blown up by the bomb planted by Marxist-oriented separatist terrorists.

LANKA PUWATH reported that the Colombo airport, which was closed, has now been reopened. The defense secretary, General Sepala Attiygalle; the head of the joint operations command, Lieutenant General Cyril Ranatunga; and Inspector General of Police Cyril Herath were conducting on-the-spot investigations at the airport. The chairman, Air Lanka Captain (Hatita Wickremanayake), joined them at the site. A number of planes due to land at Colombo were diverted to Madras.

AFP: LTTE Separatists Planted Bomb

BK031542 Hong Kong AFP in English 1530 GMT 3 May 86

[Text] Colombo, May 3 (AFP) — A hardline Tamil separatist group, the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE), is believed to be responsible for a bomb blast aboard an Air Lanka plane at the international airport here Saturday which killed 20 people, authoritative sources said.

A radio message between an LTTE member in southern India and a colleague in Jaffna, Sri Lanka's northern capital, intercepted by intelligence agencies here, indicates that the LTTE planted the bomb, the sources told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE. The LTTE man in India reportedly asked his colleague in Jaffna whether he knew anything of the attack and who had done it, the sources said. The LTTE colleague in Jaffna replied that "that is the work of our samba," referring to one of their men here, the sources said.

(In Madras, southern India, a spokesman for the LTTE earlier Saturday had denied any involvement in the bombing).

The government earlier accused the LTTE of trying to wreck an Indian initiative to find a negotiating basis for resumed discussions between the government and the southern India-based Tamil separatist groups campaigning for a separate Tamil state in Sri Lanka's north and east.

Further on LTTE's Claim

BK041629 Hong Kong AFP in English 1609 GMT 4 May 86

[Excerpt] Colombo, May 4 (AFP) — A Tamil separatist guerrilla group claimed responsibility on Sunday for Saturday's bomb blast aboard an airliner at Colombo International Airport that reportedly killed 22 people, mostly foreigners.

(In the southern Indian city of Madras, members of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) told reporters their group had planted the bomb that ripped through the Air Lanka Lockheed Tristar as passengers were boarding the plane for a flight to Male in the Maldives.)

A death toll of 22 reported by Sri Lanka's state radio on Sunday appeared to include a missing person that the station said was presumed dead, observers here said. Foreign Ministry sources said on Saturday 21 people, including 20 foreigners, had been killed, and 23 injured, and that one person was missing.

The LTTE claim appeared to back up evidence found by policemen and officials sifting through the wreckage of the plane. Official sources said they had found several cloth caps bearing the insignia of the Black Tigers, a hitherto unknown group that sources said was believed to be either an LTTE commando wing or breakaway group. It is not known how the caps got aboard the plane, the official sources said.

(In Madras on Saturday an LTTE spokesman, A.S. Blasingam, denied responsibility for the blast, but on Sunday other members of the group claimed the LTTE was indeed responsible. They said

there had been a lack of communication between the LTTE headquarters in Madras and its guerrillas in Sri Lanka.)

Several groups of militant members of Sri Lanka's Tamil minority are fighting a guerrilla war to set up an independent state in the north and east of the country.

Jayewardene Urges India To Help Wipe Out Terrorism

*BK021145 Colombo International Service in English
1045 GMT 2 May 86*

[Text] President J.R. Jayewardene has called upon India to help wipe out terrorism in Sri Lanka by closing the terrorist bases in the country. Addressing at the UNP's [United National Party] May Day rally yesterday, the president said that India as a big democracy had a duty to help another democratic country to wipe out terrorism. He said let us join hands together to wipe out terrorism not only from our two countries but from the whole of Asia.

Further Reportage on Joint Talks With India on Tamils

Indian Delegation Extends Stay

*BK021149 Colombo International Service in English
1045 GMT 2 May 86*

[Text] The visiting Indian delegation, which continued its hectic rounds of talks with government and opposition leaders, has extended its stay till Sunday [4 May]. The delegation headed by minister of state P. Chidambaram opened the day yesterday with a second meeting with the former TULF MP (Nilam Tiruchalvam). This was followed by an hour long meeting with opposition leader Anura Bandaranaike. Mr Bandaranaike had also been present when the delegation met the SLFP leader, Mrs Bandaranaike, on Wednesday night. An SLFP spokesman said the Indians had urged the SLFP to set the ethnic problem above party politics and help to work out a solution. He said Mrs Bandaranaike had indicated that the SLFP would not stand in the way of any reasonable solution and that she would consult her party.

The delegation had a 90 minute meeting with Land Minister Gamini Disanayake when land settlement was discussed in depth. A second meeting with Mr Disanayake was fixed for today. Wednesday's discussion with National Security Minister Lalith Athulathmudali focussed on law and order. At an evening meeting with Dr H.W. Jayewardene Q.C. [Queen's Counsel], the mission went deeper into the question of the structure of the unit of devolution and the powers to be devolved.

Final Round of Talks

*BK040326 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT
4 May 86*

[Text] The visiting Indian delegation had a final round of talks with President Jayewardene at Colombo last night on the ethnic issue. The talks lasted about 2 hours. They also continued the discussion during the dinner hosted in their honor by the Sri

Lankan president. Earlier, the Indian delegation also had extensive discussions with the national security minister, Mr Lalith Athulathmudali, for about 3 hours. They also met the lands development minister, Mr Gamini Disanayake.

Meanwhile, the Sri Lankan Government has blamed the Tamil militant groups for the blast of the Air Lanka plane yesterday. In a communique, the National Security Ministry said that it suspects that the Eelam terrorist organization was responsible for the explosion. A team of high-level officials have already started the investigation. Air Force official said black uniforms of the terrorist organization identified as Black Tigers bearing their red insignia were found among the cargo of the aircraft. Our Colombo correspondent, Plabon Majumder, reports that investigators suspect that the device which caused the explosion was in the consignment (?meant) for the Maldives. Meanwhile, the death toll in the explosion has risen to 22. Official sources in Colombo said that 18 of the dead were French, German, British and Japanese tourists. Three of the dead were Sri Lankans.

21 Killed in Clashes Between Rival Tamil Groups

*BK030317 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT
3 May 86*

[Text] In Sri Lanka, 21 more Tamil militants of the Tamil Eelam Liberation Organization [TELO] are reported killed in clashes with the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam [LTTE] yesterday. The clashes between the rival militants groups are continuing for the past 4 days. Reports from Colombo say that the LTTE claimed victory over its rival and its gunmen marched through the streets of Jaffna declaring that they have won the fighting with the TELO. The LTTE is also said to have launched a house-to-house search for the TELO leader, Mr Mohan Sri Sabaratnam, whose whereabouts are not known. Meanwhile, the national security minister, Mr Lalith Athulathmudali, said that the LTTE, led by Mr Prabhakaran, has launched the offensive this week in a bid to disrupt the current peace talks.

300 Reportedly Killed in 3 Days

*BK031119 Colombo International Service in English
1045 GMT 3 May 86*

[Text] According to a report from LANKA PUWATH the open warfare between two rival terrorist groups in Jaffna over the past 3 days has resulted in the death of 300 persons, 40 of them innocent civilians who were caught in the cross fire. The fighting in the Jaffna District has now spread to Kilinochchi and Vavuniya.

According to an intelligence report, while the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam leader, Prabhakaran, has sent a contract for the killing of Sri Lankan Sabaratnam — the leader of the Tamil Eelam Liberation Organization, Sabaratnam himself has sent on the contract for the killing of Prabhakaran who is in India. The same report also states that Sabaratnam has told Prabhakaran to return to Sri Lanka to have an open fight in cowboy style to a finish.

Radio Rabat Distorts De Cuellar Statement on War
LD030824 Tehran IRNA in English 0800 GMT 3 May 86

[Text] Tehran, May 3, IRNA — A source close to the U.N. Secretary general Javier Perez de Cuellar told the Islamic Republic of Iran's representative to the U.N. that Morocco's Radio Rabat had distorted De Cuellar's statements on Iraq-Iran war.

He added that in an interview a month ago the U.N. secretary general announced that his 8-point plan had been rejected by the Islamic Republic of Iran since Iraq had called for a ceasefire to discuss the plan. The radio, distorting the interview, had claimed that direct negotiations were underway between Iran and Iraq on De Cuellar's 8-article plan.

Following fatal blows Iraqi Army received in the Al-Faw Peninsula and simultaneously with the massive dispatch of Islamic forces to war fronts, reactionary supporters of Iraq are spreading these rumours to strengthen the morale of the Iraqi ruler and his forces.

Further on Majlis Speaker's Friday Prayers Sermons
GF021728 Tehran International Service in Arabic
1430 GMT 2 May 86

[Arabic Friday sermon delivered by Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani, Tehran Friday imam ad interim, Majlis speaker, and the imam's representative to the Supreme Defense Council at Tehran University on 2 May — recorded]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Praise be to God. Peace be upon God's prophet, upon his scion, and upon God's pious worshippers. The Muslim world is passing through a bitter and bleak period. Following the Islamic awakening in the aftermath of the triumph of Islam in Iran, and following the advocacy of Islam as a message that saves mankind from its present dilemma, the world forces of infidelity began to use enormous forces to combat Islam, crush Islamic awakenings, weaken Muslim states, and sow discord and disarray among Muslims.

In such circumstances, the Islamic Republic of Iran is a center of and a springboard for the Islamic movement. Consequently, it has become the primary target for the malicious plots of the arrogant powers. Israel and the 'Aflaqi Ba'thist Party of Iraq are among the most important tools of the front of infidelity used in achieving its objectives. In the Arab world the forces of infidelity created circumstances forcing the leaders of the Arab states to face numerous problems in convening a summit to discuss certain issues. Even if the summit should be held, differences will prevent an understanding and an agreement on some objective issues.

In circumstances in which Libya is being subjected to a terrible and fierce transgression by the U.S. giant, some Arab states are getting closer to the West and, as Bush claims, agreed to the U.S. aggression before it took place. At the same time, relations between a number of Arab states and the usurper and expansionist Israel are growing daily, and consequently the sensitivity of

Muslims toward the Palestinian question is diminished. Egypt and Jordan lead this traitorous trend and, regrettably, they have been able to drag behind them the leaders of the Palestinian resistance and split the ranks of the resistance. In addition to its abominable crime in kindling the war the Iraqi Ba'th Party is accompanying that lot in their dirty policy.

The strength of Arab Middle East states used to lie in the oil and financial capabilities of these states. However, regrettably and as a result of the betrayal of some reactionary oil-producing Arab countries, oil prices slumped and this strength became a weak point. Moreover, the repressive governments that have been imposed on their peoples have removed the Muslim masses from the arena and, consequently, the people view these regrettable events with great indifference.

In circumstances in which our enemies agree on a dirty and diabolical matter such as the aggression against the Palestinian people and kindling a war against Islamic Iran, the Arab and Muslim countries are unable to agree and cooperate on such basic issues as fighting the usurper Israel, repulsing U.S. aggression, punishing the Iraqi Ba'th Party which kindled the unjust war, and safeguarding the economic interests of the peoples of the area.

I am propounding the pains and wounds afflicting the Muslim world in the hope that such a discussion will help in making positive and constructive decisions.

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. "We have given you abundance; so pray to your Lord and sacrifice. He who hates you is the one who is cut off." [Koranic verses] Peace and God's mercy be upon you.

Majlis Speaker on Arms Purchases 'Smear Campaign'
LD021517 Tehran IRNA in English 1455 GMT 2 May 86

[Text] Tehran, May 2, IRNA — The Majlis (parliament) speaker Hojjat ol-Eslam Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani said here Thursday that opposition to the revolution of Iran was because of its influential Islamic culture which provides a sound blue-print for charting the course of its geo-political policies.

The Majlis speaker was speaking to Minister of Ershad Islami (Islamic Guidance) Hojjat ol-Eslam Mohammad Khatami and the Islamic Republic's cultural attaches to foreign countries, currently here on a homecoming visit. He said that global powers were well aware that once countries were stripped of their cultural identity they cease to pose any serious threat to them.

Rafsanjani termed U.S. allegations of Iranian arms purchases from that country as 'pure fabrications'. He said arrogant powers engaged in such smear campaigns against Iran because they felt the Islamic Republic of Iran had become a source on which those people struggling for freedom in the world could rely and furthermore because they want to undermine its impeccable record of anti-imperialistic struggle.

The Majlis speaker said "if one day Iran allows the West German Beider Meinhof or Japanese Red Brigades to open bureaus in

Tehran, however it has never allowed this, global powers will immediately accuse Iran of supporting terrorism." But, he said, some foreign governments which have given shelter to Iranian monarchist and counter-revolutionary groups in Paris and elsewhere throughout the world have never regarded themselves as supporters of terrorism.

On alleged practice of torture in Iran, Rafsanjani said, "I confidently announce that prisons in Iran are the most comfortable ones throughout the world." He said that unlike political prisoners in foreign countries Iranian political prisoners are allowed furloughs to go home and see their families. In conclusion the Majlis speaker gave some guidelines to the Iranian cultural attaches.

Tehran Daily Accuses Tokyo Summit of Conspiracy
GF041529 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1200 GMT
 4 May 86

[From the Press Review]

[Text] The 3-day session of Western bloc industrialized nations — the United States, Great Britain, France, Italy, Canada, West Germany, and Japan — is being inaugurated in Tokyo today under circumstances in which the agenda has never been so overtly opposed to the [interests of] developing countries. The newspaper *JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI* today publishes an editorial on this session entitled "The Session of the Industrialized Nations for the Distribution of the Oil Income", which we will now hear:

The newspaper writes: These seven industrialized nations have envisaged greater vistas to poach the God-given resources of OPEC members which have — due to the premeditated reduction of oil prices in a manner previously unsurpassed — been placed at the disposal of the world-devourers. They intend to discuss the ways and means to implement the "Marshall Plan" for the oil Croesuses and, by selecting the most advantageous and least expensive modus operandi, they wish to achieve their pre-planned objective of diminishing the problems of industrialized nations by increasing the indebtedness and the dependence of developing nations.

This is the plot, which, in light of the approaching date of this session and the proclaimed results of the last OPEC session, can be incontrovertibly interpreted as a plot hatched by the seven industrialized nations against the OPEC members. It is worth noting that what is about to transpire will, in fact, be the result of a plot of the industrialized nations and their pawns within OPEC. The cliques within OPEC which have agreed to fill the coffers of the world-devourers by stabbing OPEC in the back have committed the highest treason against their own countries by preparing the ground for the conspiracy being formulated by the Western bloc industrialized countries. The heads of the countries, colluding with the world-devourers within OPEC, should explain to their tyrannized and deprived people what right they have to take such selfish decisions to deplete their resources and fill the pockets of their enemies. These nations are incensed at the great treachery being perpetrated against them; at the pusillanimous rulers who have wielded the gavel for the auction

of their wealth; and at the oil-plunderers, who, with all of their shamelessness congregate to pillage this ill-gotten gain among themselves and seek new avenues to increase the dependence of the oil-rich countries upon them.

It is for this reason that the session of the seven industrialized nations is being convened with unparalleled security measures at the Akasaka Palace, the venue for the session; its environs are guarded by 80,000 policemen. Of course, when the seven heads of state assemble to assess better ways to pilfer and ravage nations, obviously they need 80,000 policemen to protect their lives. Definitely, 80,000 armed men are necessary to the loot hundreds of millions of dollars. Naturally, the Japanese Government should allocate a budget of \$42 million to safeguard the lives of the participants of such a massive burglary. They are apprehensive about the furor of the nations being exploited in this manner and they are aware that they are always susceptible to reprisals.

The news agencies have expressed their views on the sidelines about the session of the seven industrialized nations of the Western bloc in Tokyo. They state that the participants of this caucus have conjured up the beginning of a bright economic outlook for the future of the Western industrialized nations. They are well aware that this bright economic panorama for the industrialized nations will mean the opening of a bleak economic period for countries whose lamp will be stolen by the industrialized nations. However, they should be aware that with another's lamp, they cannot illuminate their economic atmosphere for a prolonged period of time. They have been able to appropriate this lamp with the connivance of their accomplices in the oil-rich countries who have poised themselves on the seat of power in a despotic manner. Hence, they should await the day when the wronged nations rise up in revenge with growing perception and acumen and extract their ravaged wealth from the throats of the predators. That day is not far away.

Another point worth mentioning in the context of the session of seven industrialized nations is the message by Chedli Klibi, the ICO secretary general [title as heard], to this conclave requesting a speedy end to the Iran-Iraq war. The usual contempt manifested by Chedli Klibi and the fact that he was instructed to extend his hand of mendicancy toward the United States and its allies aside, it would not be irrelevant to point out to him and to his mentors that it is not necessary to worry about the end to this war. The able Islamic combatants are determined, with their iron will and strong arms, to wipe out Saddam and terminate the war to the benefit of the two nations of Iran and Iraq. Thus the political-military equilibrium of the region would change in a manner leaving none of the world-devourers the power to interfere in the interests and advantages of the people.

Tehran Claims Iraq Involved in U.S. Raid on Libya
GF031404 Tehran International Service in Arabic
 1330 GMT 3 May 86

[Text] While the progressive Arab and Islamic countries continue to condemn the U.S. military aggression against Libya, the government information media of the Iraqi Ba'thist regime are continuing their campaign against Libya.

News sources in London said that the Iraqi government cooperated with the United States in its attacks against the Libyan Muslim people by providing it with information about Libya. These sources added that the Iraqi regime managed through its spies to prepare maps on the sensitive areas in Libya and put these maps at the disposal of the CIA.

Foreign Ministry Reaffirms Position on Afghanistan
LD042037 Tehran IRNA in English 1813 GMT 4 May 86

[Text] Tehran, May 4, IRNA — The Islamic Republic of Iran [words indistinct] it would not participate in talks which disregarded the role of Muslim people of Afghanistan. A spokesman for the Foreign Ministry who was commenting on the 7th round of Geneva talks on Afghanistan to start Monday, further stated that "we believe that the interests of the Muslim Afghan nation must be taken into consideration before everything and therefore we cannot approve of these talks through our presence."

He added that Iran has always demanded withdrawal of the Soviet troops from Afghanistan and "it is natural that we will continue to welcome any development leading to their rapid withdrawal which would strip the U.S. of the pretext to interfere in the region."

The spokesman also said that the Islamic Republic was willing as a neighbor to see Afghanistan an independent, Islamic and non-aligned country and that its people find the opportunity to decide their favorite government themselves.

Velayati Briefs Khamene'i on Visit to Syria, Libya
LD042126 Tehran IRNA in English 1321 GMT 4 May 86

[Text] Tehran, May 4, IRNA — Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati Sunday met with President 'Ali Khamene'i and briefed him on the outcomes of his recent tour of Libya and Syria. Velayati heading a delegation including minister of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps Mohsen Rafiqdust travelled to Libya last week to pledge Iran's support for the Tripoli government against any U.S. aggression.

During his visit to Syria Velayati gave President Hafiz al-Asad a message from his Iranian counterpart President 'Ali Khamene'i.

Khamene'i Urges SAIRI To Act Against Iraqi Regime
LD021803 Tehran IRNA in English 1755 GMT 2 May 86

[Text] Tehran, Khuzestan Prov., May 2, IRNA — The Second General Assembly of the sixth term of the Supreme Assembly of the Islamic Revolution of Iraq (SAIRI) opened in a city of Khuzestan Province Friday with a message from President 'Ali Khamene'i.

The president in his message, called the meeting "a thorn in the eyes" of those who did not want Muslim Iraqi forces to get united in Iraq's political scene. It said that mobilization of Iraqi people

and SAIRI's military operations were important development at this crucial juncture in the existence of the Ba'thist government.

SAIRI's political-propagation activities as well as the international branch of its movement should take inspiration from its military jihad (holy war), he said. "Iraqi Ba'th party and its ruler Saddam Husayn are now-a-days spending their bitterest most difficult days in the history of their illegal reign over the Islamic country of Iraq", the president said.

From the military point of view, Khamene'i said, the Iraqi regime has sustained bitter defeats in the battle fields and has failed to rescue itself from its own trap, despite massive assistance from the U.S. and other western and eastern powers as well as reactionary states.

Khamene'i further said that political support for the Iraqi regime these days amount to the issuing of a resolution which however, does nothing to redeem its prestige, because he noted this regime's miscalculations has placed it on the verge of collapse.

On the state of Iraq's economy, Khamene'i said, monetary aid of global arrogance and reactionary Arab states to the Baghdad government would only add to its foreign debts and would in no way affect Iran's resolve to do away with the ruling regime in Iraq.

The president also called on the SAIRI members to beware of the plot hatched by enemies of Islam to introduce dubious Muslim personalities and institutions in the political scene of Iraq. He urged them to take suitable measures to foil the plot.

The SAIRI should also try to institutionalize Islamic culture in Iraq and raise consciousness of Iraqi people especially the country's youth while simultaneously keeping up the military pressure, Khamene'i said.

After reading the president's message, the SAIRI head in his address to the gathering said that mere political activity was not enough to topple the ruling Ba'thist regime in Iraq, but that armed jihad should be accelerated to free the Iraqi people from the tyrannical regime. He also called on all Muslim Iraqi forces to go to the fronts and participate in the fight to topple the dictatorial regime of Iraq.

Reportage on Visit of SDAR Education Minister

Arrives in Tehran

GF020725 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 2 May 86

[Text] Mr Sayyid Ahmad al-Batal, education minister of the Saharan Democratic Arab Republic, arrived in Tehran this morning and was welcomed by our country's education minister. Speaking on the aims of his visit to Iran, Mr Sayyid Ahmed al-Batal spoke to our correspondent. He said: This visit takes place as part of the ties between the two countries and will have a tangible effect on strengthening bilateral relations.

He added: I have been assigned by Saharan President Mr Mohamed Abdelaziz to convey his heartiest greetings to the great leader of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Ayatollah Khomeini, and the Islamic Republic of Iran's authorities. The Saharan Democratic Arab Republic's education minister stressed that the Islamic revolution of Iran is the supporter of all revolutions in the world. He said: On behalf of the leader and people of the [Western] Sahara I condemn the barbaric Iraqi attack on the Islamic Republic of Iran, which took place on the orders of the United States. I am convinced that the motive of this attack was to prevent the progress of the Muslim nations, because the Islamic Republic of Iran is the hope of the oppressed of the world.

In an interview with our correspondent, our country's education minister, Mr Akrami, explained the details of the visit of the Saharan Democratic Arab Republic's visit to our country to which we draw your attention:

[Begin recording] [Unidentified correspondent] Mr Akrami, would you inform us of the role of the Saharan delegation, headed by the education minister, in expanding educational and cultural ties with the Islamic Republic of Iran.

[Akrami] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. In consonance with the guidance of the great Islamic ideology, we have ties with all Muslim countries, neighbors, and countries under domination. We desire to expand relations with them in political, economic, and cultural fields. It is in this regard that our brother Saharan Education Minister Mr Sayyid Ahmad al-Batal expressed his desire to visit Tehran some time ago. Now the preliminaries have been completed. The program for the next few days includes discussions on educational topics, and what we have achieved in that field. We hope that the beneficial experiences of the revolutionary Muslims in this country will be useful to Mr Sayyid Ahmad al-Batal, the esteemed education minister of the Saharan Democratic Arab Republic and his accompanying delegates.

By the grace of God, new experiences and revolutionary trends have occurred in all fields and our educational experiences will prove advantageous for all who wish to live as free and independent Muslims. [end recording]

Meets With Counterpart

LD030900 Tehran IRNA in English 0835 GMT 3 May 86

[Text] Tehran, May 3, IRNA — The visiting education minister of the Saharan Arab Democratic Republic (SADR), Sayyid Ahmad al-Batal, said here Friday that Muslim Saharan people were fighting for their legitimate rights and for Islam. In a meeting with the Iranian minister of education, Kazem Akrami, Al-Batal said that with the victory of the Islamic Revolution of Iran, the Saharan people had found a strong support for the continuation of their struggle.

Meanwhile, Akrami pointed to the grave responsibility of the education system in Iran following the victory of the Islamic revolution in training a generation committed to Islamic principles.

The two sides later discussed cultural relations between the two countries.

Confers With Foreign Minister

LD042318 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 4 May 86

[Text] Ahmad al-Batal, the Western Saharan education and training minister, this morning conferred with Foreign Affairs Minister Velayati. In this meeting, Al-Batal, in explaining the Western Saharan people's successful struggle against the reactionary regime of Hassan, the king of Morocco, said: Despite the dastardly war imposed on you, we consider your continued support for the liberation struggles by the Western Saharan people as a guarantee for victory.

In response, Velayati expressed his hopes for a final victory for the Saharan people, saying: The most fundamental issue in the struggles of the Muslim people of Sahara is reliance on Islam — that will guarantee the final victory. In conclusion, he expressed the support of the Islamic Republic of Iran for the liberation struggles of the Saharan people.

Meets With Islamic Guidance Minister

LD042325 Tehran IRNA in English 1739 GMT 4 Apr 86

[Text] Tehran, May 4, IRNA — Visiting education minister of Saharan Arab Democratic Republic (SADR) Ahmad al-Batal met and conferred with minister of Ershad-e Eslami (Islamic Guidance) Hojjat ol-Eslam Mohammad Khatami and higher education minister Mohammad Farnadi here Sunday.

During the meeting Iranian ministers announced willingness of the Islamic Republic to establish educational and cultural [words indistinct] will also admit SADR students to its universities, they added.

Meanwhile, SADR Minister Al-Batal and his accompanying delegation inspected an Iraqi POW camp here on the same day. Batal also visited two technical and vocational complexes of blind students during which he expressed hope that his country could take advantage of Iranian technical and vocational experiences.

Meets With President

LD051302 Tehran IRNA in English 1205 GMT 5 May 86

[Text] Tehran, May 5, IRNA — Education Minister of the Saharan Arab Democratic Republic (SADR) Sayyid Ahmad al-Batal Monday met President 'Ali Khamene'i and briefed him on the current social and political stance of his country vis-a-vis Morocco and imperialism. He said Muslim Saharan people regarded their revolution as the continuation of the Islamic revolution of Iran to which they would remain loyal for ever.

In response, President Khamene'i said that Iran was following the Saharan issues with keen interest because of the importance of its struggle against global arrogance. Efforts of arrogant

powers to strengthen the Moroccan regime were signs of their weakness in confrontation with popular and Islamic resistance of Muslim Saharan people, Khamene'i said.

The president added that despite ever increasing plots of global arrogance to suppress Islamic movements in northern Africa, the advance of these movements in the region could be clearly seen. There was no doubt that Muslim Saharan people would continue their struggle and their in-depth Islamic faith would help them tolerate any hardship, Khamene'i said.

Lorestan Province Sustains Flood Damage

LD051002 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 5 May 86

[Text] Following heavy rainfalls and floods in Lorestan Province, some villages, public buildings, residential areas, farms, and livestock have sustained major damage. The Central News Unit reports that, following the recent rainfalls, more than 60 villages in Lorestan, especially Alashtar, Nurabad, Chegeni, Azna, Dorud, Pol-e Dokhtar and 'Ali Gudarz have sustained damage. More than 20 people have lost their lives.

The same report indicates that Pol-e Dokhtar district situated in the southern part of Lorestan Province is completely flooded. More than 15 bridges have been destroyed, and many communicating roads in some villages and districts have been closed. Preliminary investigations by the flood relief headquarters show more than 3 billion rials of damage. A river has also overflowed its banks and flooded the Khorramabad—Andimeshk road. Light vehicles will not be able to travel along this road. Lorestan flood relief headquarters has been set up to help flood victims. The Khorramabad—Borujerd road has been closed since last night due to flooding that has covered the (?Chalamchulan) bridge.

Hamadan Province Division Leaves for War Fronts

LD021527 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 2 May 86

[Text] In connection with the dispatch of a division of the combatant forces from Hamadan Province to the warfronts, the correspondent of the Central News Unit sends the following report from Hamadan: This morning, a division of the redispached volunteer forces, comprised of staff of government departments and institutions, factory workers, teachers, and students from the cities of Hamadan, Malayer, Nahavand and Tuysarkan and the districts of Asadabad, Bahar, Kabutarahang, Razan, and (Samenin), within the framework of the 7th Karbala' marchers convoy and the 3d Labbayk Ya Imam convoy, left for the fronts of light against darkness.

After passing through a number of streets in the city, where they were given a send-off by throngs of Hamadan citizens, and after visiting the city's martyrs cemetery and renewing their covenant with the blood of the martyrs cemetery and renewing their covenant with the blood of the martyrs of the Islamic Revolution and the imposed war, they left for the battlefields.

More Combatants Leave for Battlefront

LD021532 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 2 May 86

[Text] At midday today, an independent mobilization brigade from the Central Province left for the battlefront after participating in Friday prayers in Tehran. According to a Central News Unit report the mobilization forces from Qom and Arak, one brigade strong and entirely made up of combatants, after attending Tehran's Friday prayers, left for the battlefronts today. According to a Central News Unit report 600 police personnel — NCO's, members of staff, junior and senior officers, and religio-political clergymen in the police in the country's various provinces — left for the southern fronts at midday today after taking part in the Friday prayers. It is noteworthy that yesterday too, 600 police personnel, after meeting the Islamic Consultative Assembly, left for the battlefronts.

Convoys, 500 Technical Personnel Leave for Front

LD042331 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 4 May 86

[Excerpts] Our correspondent reports from Khorasan Province on a Karbala wayfarers convoy setting off from Mashhad:

The sixth convoy of Karbala' wayfarers from Khorasan Province, included in the Third Convoy of Labbayk ya Imam, and formed by two divisions of students, workers, teachers, and pupils left for the warfronts aboard trains this afternoon. They were seen off with enthusiastic celebrations by their relatives and the thronging residents of Mashhad. The participants in the sixth convoy of Khorasan Province marched along a number of Mashhad thoroughfares and chanted slogans expressing their support for the continuation of the war until victory.

Further, concurrent with the above convoy, more than 500 skilled technical personnel of Khorasan Reconstruction Jihad Department left, amid enthusiastic ceremonies, to the warfronts earlier this morning. A volunteer division of popular forces from Khorasan Province also departed for training bases at the same time.

This report indicates that yesterday students of Ferdowsi University of Mashhad staged a march and announced their complete readiness to join the other warriors of the Islamic Army.

Islamic Guard Unit Recruits Volunteers

LD050220 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0730 GMT 4 May 86

[Text] The Islamic Revolution Guards Corps' District 1 Sarollah unit [urban patrol] declared: This district is accepting, from among volunteers, honorary guards in order to complete its combat cadre in the following fields: Command, ground (combat), armored equipment, artillery, news services, engineer-combat, mechanics for heavy vehicles, first level drivers for dump trucks and bulldozers, levellers, and painters. This category of guards will receive the same wages and fringe-benefits granted to the official category of guards. Volunteers can go to the

following bases in order to obtain more information and to register their names: Shemiranad, Shahid Beheshti, Malek Ashtar, Abuzar, Meqdad, Karaj, Saujblagh, Sharhiyar, Islam-shahr, Shar-e (?Rey), Varamin, Damavand, and Firuzkuh.

Iran, Iraq Deny Responsibility for Tanker Sinking
LD021442 Tehran IRNA in English 1412 GMT 2 May 86

[Text] London, May 2, IRNA — A British sea captain and two Pakistani crewmen of an oil tanker on its way to a Saudi Arabian oil port were killed in an attack in the Persian Gulf Thursday. London shipping sources said the attack on the 31,521-ton Saudi Arabian tanker *Al-Safaniyah* took place 75 miles off the coast of Abu Dhabi in the southern Persian Gulf. Two missiles hit the crew compartment, killing the three and injuring six others.

Neither Iran nor Iraq claimed responsibility for the attack and there was confusion on whether the attack was carried out by a helicopter gunship or an aircraft.

Meanwhile the British Foreign Office said Friday it could not confirm the death of the British captain. "Naturally we are very concerned about such reports" a spokesman said and added that urgent steps were being taken to identify the men. He said if the reports were correct Britain would respond against the attacking party.

Iraq has an official policy on attacking ships on Iranian shipping routes. Ships doing business with the southern Persian Gulf states which are among Iraq's biggest financial backers in the war against Iran, have been attacked in the region in the past.

But Iran has denied reports of attacks by its air force on ships in the Persian Gulf, including one last month. It has however reported searches against more than a dozen ships in the region by its navy, to check against goods being carried to Iraq.

Reportage on Combat Operations in War With Iraq

Communique No 2,458

LD021702 Tehran IRNA in English 1650 GMT 2 May 86

[Text] Tehran, May 2 IRNA — Iranian fighter bombers pounded Iraqi troops concentration centers as well as their command post in Faqqeh region at 02:25 GMT Friday inflicting considerable casualties on them. All planes returned to their bases safely, according to a military communique here.

The communique number 2458 released by the joint staff Command of the Armed Forces said Iranian navy inspected a merchant ship as well as two tankers near the Strait of Hormuz Thursday. The ships set sail when no Iraqi-bound cargo was identified on board.

Over the past 24 hours Iranian combatants launched a coordinated attack on Iraqi positions in Sayyid Khan region capturing a strategically important height, the command said. The Iraqi forces were forced to retreat from the area suffering heavy casualties and losses, it added. During the operation a good

number of weapons as well as munitions including R.P.G-7 rounds and mortars were taken as booty and one Iraqi soldier was captured, said the communique.

An Iraqi patrol unit was subjected to Iranian artillery fire when trying to infiltrate their positions in Qasr-e Shirin. The unit was forced to flee the region. Muslim combatants also brought Iraqi engineering and armored units as well as their fortifications under heavy artillery fire in Sumar, Naft-e Shah and Mehran, said the communique.

In southern fronts exchange of fire continued being somewhat more intense in eastern Basra, eastern Al-'Amarah and operational region of Faqqeh, the command said.

Elsewhere the command said movements of Iraqi armoured units in the region opposite Chazzabeh and that of their motorized columns near Eynkhosh and Nahr-Anbar were disturbed as a result of Iranian artillery fire.

Iraqi long-range artillery fire damaged 15 houses in the city of Abadan in Khuzestan Province Thursday, the communique concluded.

1,700 Iraqi Forces Killed

LD030546 Tehran IRNA in English 0541 GMT 3 May 86

[Text] Khatam ol-Anbiya' HQ., May 3, IRNA — In a penetration attack launched to destroy Iraqi forces in Faqqeh, southern front, the Islamic Forces of Iran killed 1700 Iraqi troops, smashed over 30 tanks and set ablaze a large amount of Iraqi munition Friday night.

Khatam ol-Anbiya' joint headquarters of the Army and the Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps announced Saturday morning that the forces of Islam, capturing a number of Iraqis, returned to their bases safely. The penetration attack was launched under heavy rainfall which paralyzed the Iraqi enemy to embark on any action, the announcement added.

2,100 Iraqi Die in Faqqeh Offensive

LD031035 Tehran IRNA in English 1033 GMT 3 May 86

[Text] Tehran, May 3, IRNA — At least 2100 Iraqi troops were killed and heavy equipment losses were inflicted on enemy troops during an overnight assault by Iran's Islamic Combatants in the Faqqeh region, northwest of the border town of Bostan in Khuzestan Province.

The infiltration operation was launched at 23:30 hours local time (20:00 hours GMT) Friday in the course of which heavy losses and casualties were inflicted on 24th mechanized brigade, 27th Armored Brigade from the 10th Armored Corps, the sixth Armored Brigade from the Third Corps, as well as three brigades from the First Army of Iraq. In this successful operation, over 60 enemy tanks, tens of personnel carriers as well as a large quantity of enemy arms and ammunitions were also destroyed by Iran's Islamic combatants.

The smoke of demolished enemy equipment still welled into the air (at the time of the report's transmission) and corpses of Iraqi soldiers littered the operational region. A number of enemy forces were also taken captive by the Iranian combatants who returned to their bases safely. The rainfall at the time of the operation as well as invisible divine aids enabled Iran's Muslim fighters to carry out the operation more swiftly.

Iraqi Casualties Put at 4,000

LD040913 Tehran IRNA in English 0855 GMT 4 May 86

[Text] Khatam ol-Anbiya' HQ, May 4, IRNA — The number of casualties inflicted on the Iraqi forces during an infiltration attack launched Friday [2 May] by the Islamic Forces of Iran in Faqqeh, southern front, rose to 4,000 killed or wounded.

During the attack, the 24th Mechanized and 27th Armoured Brigades of the 10th Armoured Division, 6th Armoured Brigade of the 3d Division and three brigades from the 1st Division sustained heavy damage. Over 76 tanks, 110 personnel carriers and large amount of munition of the Iraqi forces were destroyed by the Muslim forces of Iran.

Tehran Reports Faqqeh Successes

LD041101 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 4 May 86

[Telephone dispatch by Central News Unit correspondent from the Khatam ol-Anbiya' Headquarters of the "Val-Fajr-8" operational area]

[Text] In the name of God the compassionate, the merciful. Following the victorious operations of the courageous combatants of Islam in the Faqqeh region, which was aimed at destroying enemy positions and killing enemy personnel this morning, the combatants of Islam launched a limited infiltrating offensive against enemy tank positions situated on Al-Faw-Umm Qasr axis. Several enemy tanks together with their crews were set on fire. The smoke from this fire was seen clearly from the Al-Fawm-Umm Qasr road. Following this limited offensive, the enemy tanks left their positions and fled the area. One of the POW's captured during the operations two nights ago in the Faqqeh area, said: Before being captured, I noticed that in the attack of the combatants of Islam against our positions, only four armored personnel carriers out of the 14 belonging to our battalion remained. The other 10 personnel carriers were set on fire by the antitank fire from the Army of the Forces of Islam.

Communique No 2,459

LD031540 Tehran IRNA in English 1535 GMT 3 May 86

[Text] Tehran, May 3, IRNA — Iranian naval forces inspected four commercial ships and two oil tankers sailing under foreign flags in the Hormuz Strait Friday but allowed them to continue their voyage after being satisfied that they were not carrying any Iraqi bound goods, according to a military communique here Saturday.

Communique 2459 of the Joint Staff Command of the Armed Forces said Iranian Gendarmerie forces in addition to inflicting substantial casualties and losses on Iraqi forces in Qasr-e Shirin and Ilam, set fire to several observation posts and one munition dump of the enemy in Bayat and Zobeydah killing or wounding at least 20 Iraqi soldiers.

The command said that exchange of artillery fire between Iranian Muslim combatants and Iraqi troops continued in the southern fronts Friday raging somewhat more heavily in the Majnun Islands and Hoseyniyeh.

Heavy artillery fire of Islamic Forces of Iran set fire to parts of Iraqi engineering hardware in Jofeyr and halted the movements of enemy armoured and motorized units elsewhere in Yabis, Chenaneh and Nahr-e Anbar. All operations of Iraqi forces in these fronts were minimized.

In Nahr-e Anbar, the communique said, casualties and damages were inflicted on an Iraqi patrol unit trying to infiltrate Iranian positions, forcing it to flee.

Iranian Muslim combatants traded heavy artillery fire with Iraqi troops in Sumar and Mehran, both in Bakhtaran and Ilam border fronts, destroying several bunkers and observation posts of the enemy forces and killing their crew, said the joint staff.

The communique said Iranian forces shelled an Iraqi commando unit in Sumar and killed a number of them Friday.

Elsewhere the communique said heavy surface-to-air fire of Iranian Muslim combatants repulsed some Iraqi warplanes which tried to violate the airspace of Sardasht and Piranshahr.

In the northwestern, the communique said [as received], Muslim forces shelled positions and fortifications of Iraqi forces killing or wounding a number of enemy soldiers and destroying parts of their positions and military bases.

Communique No 2,460

LD041610 Tehran IRNA in English 1541 GMT 4 May 86

[Text] Tehran, May 4, IRNA — Heavy artillery was traded between Iranian Muslim and Ba'hist troops in ongoing battles in the north western fronts Saturday, as a result of which substantial casualties and losses were inflicted on enemy forces. They were also prevented from bring in reinforcement.

The joint staff communique number 2460 released Sunday says that Iraqi warplanes violated the airspace of Piranshahr and Orumiyeh, both in West Azarbayjan Province, but were forced to flee by Iranian anti aircraft fire.

The communique says, sporadic artillery duels continued in the western fronts raging somewhat more heavily in Naft-e Shah as a result of which five Iraqi gun emplacements and observation posts together with one munitions dump were set ablaze. A number of enemy soldiers were also killed or wounded.

In Kushk and Majnun Islands, the communique says, exchange of artillery fire continued and Iranian combatants maintained the upper hand and took full control of the fronts.

Casualties and damage were inflicted on Iraqi forces.

Heavy artillery fire of Muslim forces of Iran prevented some Iraqi tank and armoured units and changing positions or strengthening positions of enemy troops in areas overlooking Hoseyniyeh and Eynkhosh in the southern fronts.

It also halted engineering operations of Iraqi forces, according to the communique.

Iraqis Shell Abadan

LD041718 Tehran IRNA in English 1711 GMT 4 May 86

[Text] Ahvaz, Khuzestan Prov., May 4 IRNA — The city of Abadan was subjected to Iraqi long-range artillery fire over the past 24 hours as a result of which 30 houses were damaged and several civilian areas sustained losses.

Sporadic fire of the Iranian combatants on Iraqi positions near Sibeh, western Arvand River killed or wounded over 35 Iraqi soldiers also inflicting damage on their military hardware. Muslim combatants also checked an Iraqi armoured column near 'Abd al-Khasib region and disturbed its movement by their artillery fire.

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

6 MAY 1986

Jordan

Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad's talks with King Husayn on 5-6 May focused on ways to achieve a unified Arab stand and conduct a successful Arab summit, Amman radio disclosed in a report on the Syrian leader's visit to Jordan. The Syrian delegation in Amman also includes the prime minister and foreign minister, the radio said. Jordanian press editorials welcomed the visit and noted its "particular importance" in view of the current Arab situation, the report added. Jordanian sources cited by Kuwait's *AL-QABAS* asserted that military issues are at the heart of the talks, according to KUNA. The paper said Al-Asad would brief the Jordanians on Syrian intelligence reports about a planned Israeli attack on Syria through northern Jordan.

Syria

Despite a recent report that Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam was wounded in an assassination attempt, Damascus radio reported that Khaddam received the visiting Finnish foreign minister 5 May.

Iran-Iraq War

Iraqi naval units delivered an accurate hit on a "very large maritime target" off the Iranian coast 6 May, an Iraqi military spokesman announced in a statement cited by Voice of the Masses radio. Shipping officials in Manama cited by AFP disclosed that two tankers were set ablaze by Iraqi air attacks in the Khark Island area 6 May. Iraqi planes also raided Khark Island and hit a "large maritime target" off the Iranian coast 5 May, according to a military communique broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio.

In another shipping incident, the Manama *GULF DAILY NEWS* reported 6 May that the biggest floating crane in the Gulf was badly damaged in a recent missile attack while under tow to Al-Sharjah. The paper did not say who was responsible for the attack.

DRA

CPSU Central Committee General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev praised newly-elected PDPA Central Committee General Secretary Najibullah for the "high authority" he enjoys among the party and people, and noted his "personal role" in the consolidation of Soviet-DRA friendship, in a congratulatory message broadcast by Kabul radio.

In reportage on the internal situation, Tehran radio cited information that gunfire was heard from the presidential palace in Kabul 2 days before Babrak Karmal's resignation as party general secretary, while DPA reported that shooting was heard from various parts of Kabul 4 May, according to two Bundestag deputies who visited Kabul that day.

Kabul radio claimed that 30 "counterrevolutionaries" from Gulbuddin Hikmatyar's group were killed and 40 others were captured in recent security operations in Balkh Province.

Meanwhile, BAKHTAR noted the start of a new round of DRA-Pakistani talks in Geneva, and Karachi radio cited a UN official's statement that the talks have reached a "decisive and very sensitive stage."

Libya and the Tokyo Summit

Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhafi has thanked the Japanese people for their "large-scale and popular response" to his call for the cancellation of the summit and for the expulsion of "the child-killers, Reagan and Thatcher," Tripoli television reported. In a related commentary, the television claimed that the summit was a "devastating failure" because the participants were forced to "flee like rats" after the Japanese people responded to Col al-Qadhafi's incitement by staging mass demonstrations and firing missiles at the conference.

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Najibullah Chairs PDPA Meeting 5 May*LD060554 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0518 GMT 6 May 86*

[Text] Kabul, 5 May BAKHTAR: A session of the apparatus of the Central Committee of the PDPA was held here today under the chairmanship of Comrade Najibullah, general secretary of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan.

Comrade Najibullah talked about the proceedings and results of the 18th plenum of the PDPA CC and the tasks of party organizations.

Najibullah Congratulated by Leaders, Organizations**Gorbachev Congratulations***LD051653 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 5 May 86*

[Text] Addressed to Comrade Najibullah, the following congratulation message from Comrade Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, has arrived on the occasion of Najibullah's election as general secretary of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan:

Esteemed Comrade Najibullah: On behalf of the CPSU Central Committee, I present to you warm and sincere congratulations on your election to the rank of general secretary of the PDPA.

As a firm struggler for the interests of the Afghan people and an active participant in the implementation of the domestic and foreign policy of Afghanistan, you enjoy high authority among the party and the people and are using all your energy in the struggle toward fundamental social and economic changes in your homeland and toward the consolidation of its national sovereignty.

Your personal role in the consolidation of the Soviet-Afghan friendship and the broadening of comprehensive and fruitful cooperation between the USSR and the DRA is clear. I wish you Comrade Najibullah, and to all members of the PDPA, great success in the realization of the aims and tasks of the April Revolution.

[Signed] Mikhail Gorbachev, 5 May 1986

Congratulations From Army, Others*LD052007 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 5 May 86*

[Text] A staff meeting of the PDPA Central Committee apparatus was held today. At the meeting Comrade Najibullah, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee, spoke about the proceedings and results of the 18th plenum of the PDPA Central Committee and the tasks of the party organizations in this regard.

In affirmation of the decisions of the PDPA Central Committee's 18th plenum and the election of Comrade Najibullah as general

secretary of the PDPA Central Committee, messages from the PDPA provincial party committees, the organs of the DRA Armed Forces and social organs throughout the country are arriving at the PDPA Central Committee.

Messages arriving from the party provincial committees and state organs of Kabul City and Balkh, Paktia, Parwan Qandahar, Farah, Beghlan, Samangan and Nangarhar Provinces, are expressing congratulations for the election of Comrade Najibullah as general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee, voicing complete and full support for the decisions of the 18th plenum of the PDPA, and have stated militant solidarity with their beloved party.

On behalf of the generals, commanders, political staff, NCO's and men of the military units and establishments, the leadership of the Ministry of Defense at a grand meeting yesterday expressed support for the decisions of the 18th plenum of the PDPA Central Committee. Major General Nazar Muhammad, candidate member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo, DRA minister of defense, on behalf of the staff of the DRA Army, welcomed the decisions of the 18th plenum of the party and the election of Comrade Najibullah, general secretary of the PDPA. He expressed the complete support of the DRA Army for the decisions of the PDPA Central Committee's 18th plenum.

Congratulation telegrams addressed to Comrade Najibullah, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee, are continuously arriving.

'Intellectual' Refugee Assesses New PDPA Leader*AU051731 Vienna Domestic Service in German 1625 GMT 5 May 86*

[Austrian Radio reporter Raimund Loew report on an interview with Ali Muhammad Sakhmar, "one of Afghanistan's leading intellectuals," on the new general secretary of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, Muhammad Najibullah; place and date not given — recorded]

[Text] Ali Muhammad Sakhmar, a leading member of the Afghan Academy of Sciences and one of the most prominent intellectuals of Afghanistan, who today lives in exile in Vienna, personally knows the new party chief Mohammad Najibullah:

[Begin Sakhmar Recording in English] Well, when I was a lecturer at Kabul University, he was a student of medicine. I knew him personally. [end Sakhmar recording]

He is a callous, dogmatic, Russia-oriented communist, Professor Sakhmar says. He has always been interested in police matters and he eventually became chief of the Khad secret police. In this function he did his duty very well from the point of view of the Soviet occupiers. He killed hundreds and thousands of young people in the prisons. He is responsible for attacks against Afghan refugees in Iran and Pakistan. Karmal, says Prof Sakhmar, is an outdated figure. He drinks and is too lazy. He was Brezhnev's man. Najibullah, on the other hand, is a sharp instrument of the KGB.

So says Muhammad Sakhmar, an Afghan intellectual who a few months ago fled from Afghanistan to Vienna.

BAKHTAR Reports New Round of Afghan-Pakistani Talks

LD051353 Kabul BAKHTAR in Pashto 1130 GMT 5 May 85

[Text] Geneva, 15 Apr (TASS/BAKHTAR) — Another round of talks between Afghanistan and Pakistan that are conducted through Diego Cordovez, envoy of the UN Secretary general, opened today in the Palace of Nations in Geneva. Shah Mohammad Dost, the DRA Foreign Minister of affairs, is the head of the Afghani delegation and Sahebzada Yaqub is leading the Pakistani delegation.

Government Troops Reportedly Rout Zhawar Rebels

LD031958 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 3 May 86

[Text] As a result of the recent operations by the country's courageous Armed Forces, the nests of the counterrevolutionaries in the Zhawar region, Paktia Province were completely destroyed.

A few days after the military operations, more facts have been revealed about the true role and nature of these nests of the rebels — regarded by the counterrevolutionary bands and their Western masters as a solid and invincible fortress. Their nests looked like a real fortress. In this area, three defensive lines were built by the most modern engineering methods. In high mountains trenches were carefully built where anti-aircraft guns, surface-to-air missiles, [words indistinct], the most modern British-made missiles, anti-aircraft equipment, [words indistinct] and heavy anti-aircraft machineguns — all of them used to destroy air targets — had been stationed.

Heavy artillery and rocket launcher systems stationed 3 km from the enemy base in the territory of Pakistan were forming the defensive system of Zhawar [words indistinct].

From all these active headquarters the operations of bands in Paktia, Paktika, Kabul, and other eastern and central provinces of Afghanistan were specifically guided. Moreover, the radio station was operating in this region. In all, 49 weapons, ammunition, clothes, and foodstuff depots, as well as the supply base of Lemarkhati, located near Zhawar, from where the bands were supplied, were included in this rebel base.

Moreover, the training center for enhancing the proficiency of the teachers of killing and plunder, an ammunition factory with automatic [words indistinct] manufacturing ammunition for the British .303 rifles and heavy machineguns, and weapons repair workshops, existed in this region.

A workshop for the repair of cars, hospital, pharmacy, and drugstore, a POW prison, a villa for the band chieftains and foreign instructors, and a restaurant and bar for their recreation were also built in this region.

The construction of this complex was not something unexpected; its final purpose was the creation of the so-called Islamic Government of Afghanistan.

The protection of this base and its annexation rested on the professional murderer band — led by Jalal Uddin — a close accomplice of Gulbuddin hikmatyar — the chieftain of the so-called Hezb-e Islami Afghanistan. This evil and criminal objective of the counterrevolutionaries and their overseas supporters did not materialize.

The vigilant units of the country's Armed Forces, despite undesirable and difficult climatical and land conditions and intense firing by the counterrevolutionaries and artillery forces of Pakistan, have prepared the road for the military motor vehicles to proceed quickly. They have stationed their forces near Zhawar and inflicted crushing blows on the enemy.

The Armed Forces displayed heroism and high superiority in this clash. The final stage of the operations were guided by General Abdul Ghafur, first assistant to the chief of staff of the DRA Armed Forces.

The counterrevolutionaries abandoned injured persons, war equipment, weapons and ammunition, and were forced to escape to Pakistan.

They were not assisted by the two reactive launcher units, which, on instructions of Gulbuddin Hikmatyar, were rapidly transported to the area. Neither were they helped by the various little group sessions of counterrevolutionaries in Peshawar, in Islamabad, also attended by the U.S. instructors, nor the regular units of the Pakistan Army stationed along the border, nor the 200 Pakistani militias that were rapidly sent for their assistance. Their bodies were then left behind in Zhawar region.

What did the witnesses see, who, after the conclusion of these clashes arrived in the nest of the [words indistinct] counterrevolutionaries? They saw caches of weapons and war equipment, as well as essential materials to be sent to the weapons factory located [words indistinct] in the territory of Pakistan and destroyed vehicles.

In these operations, 252 independent enemy fortifications were destroyed; 6000 anti-tank mines and 12,000 anti-personnel mines were neutralized; hundreds of rockets and rocket launchers; thousands of reactive artillery shells and millions of tank and machinegun shells were seized.

Enemy losses reached more than 3,000 killed and about 4,000 injured. Almost all the ringleaders of the rebels of this region have been crushed. Among the dead are Mawlawi Arsalah Khan, Jalaluddin's deputy; Khan Mohammad, head of the security services; Yar Mohammad, head of the training center; and three advisers who are suspected to be subjects of the Western European countries. Their names will be determined later.

Jalaluddin personally has received several injuries and his beard has been eliminated as a result of fire. Jalaluddin's personal bodyguards managed to save him from death at the last moment.

of the fighting. Abraham, Jalaluddin's brother and (?Bakhta Jan) head of the Army depot have been injured.

The citizens of Khowst warmly welcomed the soldiers who crushed the nest of counterrevolutionary elements. In the meeting that was held on the successful return of heroic soldiers and officers, it was mentioned that the destruction of Zhawra's nest was an unforgettable lesson for all those who have in mind the return of Afghanistan to backward [words indistinct] and by the counterrevolutionary bands that want to stop the democratic transformation process in the DRA.

The Kabul citizens warmly welcomed those soldiers who took part in the (?red) operations on the eve of celebrating the 1 April Revolution festival.

Najibullah, member of the Politburo and secretary of the PDPA Central Committee, expressed satisfaction with the increasing power of the DRA Armed Forces during a speech to Kabul citizens. He praised their readiness to deal a crushing blow to all the aggressors, and emphasized the unity of Army and people who are on the same side for the defense of the national and democratic revolution of 1 April.

Counterrevolutionary Gang 'Crushed' in Balkh Province
LD051814 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1600 GMT
5 May 86

[Text] As a result of successful operations carried out recently in the village of (Oflandara), Sholgara District, Balkh Province, 30

counterrevolutionary elements belonging to the Gulbuddin gang were crushed, together with their group leader Sofi Abdorrahim. Forty of them including one of the ringleaders of the murderer band of Jamiat (Kamja) were captured. Our forces seized ammunition and assorted weapons, rocket launchers, heavy machine-guns and Chinese and Egyptian Kalashnikovs from them.

Rebel Missile Attack Kills 2 in Qandahar 2 May
LD051625 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT
5 May 86

[Text] By launching surface-to-surface missiles on the afternoon of 12 Sowr [2 May] in Qandahar, as a result of which a woman and child were martyred and the grounds of the Kharg-e Mobarak-e Hazrat-e Rasoul [shrine of the cloak of the Prophet Muhammad] were [words indistinct] destroyed, the savage counterrevolutionaries once again showed their hostility to our country's Muslims and their sacred Islam religion.

A BIA correspondent reports from Qandahar that the people there have seriously condemned this savage action by the rebels and cursed the perpetrators of this crime and their reactionary and imperialist masters headed by U.S. criminal imperialism, by whose instructions the servants are committing crime, terror and murder in our country.

Further Reportage on Violence in Punjab**More Deaths Reported; Local Curfew**

*BK051625 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT
5 May 86*

[Text] In Punjab a known terrorist, Sukhdev Singh Faqira, wanted by police in a large number of cases, is believed to have been killed by some unidentified jeep-borne armed men in Satibhind area of Amritsar this afternoon. According to an official spokesman in Chandigarh, efforts are being made to establish his identity beyond doubt. Faqira carried an award of 100,000 rupees for his arrest or information leading to his arrest. The state government was on the lookout for him for quite some time.

At different markets in Tarn Taran this afternoon, four persons were killed and two injured when three groups of suspected terrorists fired indiscriminately. Soon after the incidents, some unruly people started pelting stones at the hospital where the injured had been admitted. As a precautionary measure the local authorities have clamped an indefinite curfew there. The number of preventive arrests made since last Wednesday has risen to about 450.

Bhagat Denies Pakistan Charge of Aiding Bhutto

*BK051621 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT
5 May 86*

[Text] India today categorically denied President Ziaul Haq's allegation that it is financing the political activities of the Pakistan People's Party leader, Miss Benazir Bhutto. The external affairs minister, Mr B.R. Bhagat, told the Parliamentary Con-

sultative Committee of his ministry in New Delhi that it is astonishing a head of state should make such an allegation merely on the basis of assumptions. It is particularly regrettable that General Zia should make the charge even while repeatedly saying that he is keen to improve relations with India.

Members of the committee expressed concern at the continuing involvement of Pakistan in terrorist activities in Punjab. They said that General Zia's allegation is a deliberate attempt to externalize his own internal difficulties and divert attention from Islamabad's involvement in anti-Indian activities in Punjab. They said the general's attempt to link India with Libya was a ploy to please the United States.

Referring to Sri Lanka, Mr Bhagat said Colombo has put forward some formulations to the Indian delegation led by Mr Chidambaram on the question of devolution of power in matters like law and order and land settlement. These formulations have to be carefully examined to see they can meet the aspirations of the Tamil people.

Gandhi To Visit 4 African States 14-19 May

*BK051252 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT
5 May 86*

[Text] The prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, is paying a 6-day visit to four African countries next week. He will be visiting Zambia, Zimbabwe, Angola, and Tanzania from the 14th to the 19th of this month at the invitation of the governments of these countries.

Protest to DRA Envoy on 'Unprovoked Attacks'

*BK051549 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT
5 May 86*

[Text] The Afghan charge d'affaires was summoned to the Foreign Office in Islamabad this afternoon and a strong protest was lodged with him on unprovoked attacks on the Pakistani territories on the 3d of this month and on the 29th of last month.

The Armed Forces of Afghanistan on the 29th of last month fired 27 rounds from tanks on the Frontier Corps' Lakka Tigga post in which one Pakistani was killed. The Afghan Armed Forces fired 34 shells at Nawa Pass region the same day. However, no report of any death or injury or any damage to property has been received. The Afghan forces on the 3d of this month fired 18 rounds of artillery shells at Nawa Pass area. No loss of life or property has been reported. Later in the same day, they fired two artillery shells at Ali Mangal area in which two Pakistanis were injured and a house damaged.

Italian Official Commends Bilateral Cooperation

*BK050620 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT
5 May 86*

[Text] Italian Deputy Foreign Minister Bruno Corti has said that his country highly values Pakistan's foreign policy, especially its stand on Afghanistan and its efforts to normalize relations with India. Talking to newsmen at Islamabad airport before leaving for Karachi today, he said Pakistan is playing a major role in promoting peace and stability in the region. The Italian deputy foreign minister said that the Italian Government and people highly appreciate the notable political developments in Pakistan, particularly relating to the establishment of democratic institutions.

Referring to the two countries' economic relations, he said that these ties have rapidly expanded in the last few years and Italy has become an important member of the consortium of countries providing aid to Pakistan. Bruno Corti said that he had detailed talks with Pakistani leaders on enhanced economic cooperation and further talks in this regard will be held at the next Pakistan-Italy joint economic commission meeting in Rome in October this

year. The joint commission has promoted cooperation between the two countries in various fields.

In reply to a question, he said that his country is considering extending assistance to Pakistan in preserving food and agricultural products through nuclear technology.

The Italian deputy foreign minister and with his 5-member delegation called on Sind governor Lieutenant General, Retired, Jahan bad Khan, in Karachi today.

UN Official on U.S., Soviet Support for Afghan Talks

*BK060242 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT
6 May 86*

[Text] The UN secretary general's personal representative on Afghanistan, Diego Cordovez, has said the United States and the Soviet Union have expressed support for a negotiated settlement of the Afghanistan problem. He was talking to newsmen in Geneva where the seventh round of the UN-sponsored indirect talks to find a solution to the Afghanistan problem has begun. He said direct talks can be held if the issue of the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan is resolved. He said he will hold talks with Pakistan and Kabul administration delegations led by their foreign ministers for about 2 weeks, but the duration of the talks will be extended if it is deemed necessary.

Karachi Says Rebels Foil Offensive in Badakhshan

*BK060327 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT
6 May 86*

[Text] The Afghan mujahidin have reportedly foiled a major offensive of the Soviet-Karmal forces in Badakhshan Province of Afghanistan. The mujahidin killed 13 Soviet-Karmal soldiers and captured 21 others during the operation. The mujahidin also attacked the subdivisional headquarters of (Kenchani) and killed seven Soviet-Karmal soldiers.

NEPAL

Politician Arrested; Criticized Panchayat System

BK051525 Hong Kong AFP in English 1509 GMT 5 May 86

[Text] Katmandu, May 5 (AFP) — A Nepalese politician was arrested here Monday for publicly criticising the country's partyless Panchayat system, informed sources said here. Birendra Bhakta Shrestha, a leading representative of a multi-Party anti-Panchayat group, had allegedly questioned the legality of the 25-year-old Panchayat system and said that its economic policies had made the people poorer. He was held for questioning for several hours and was then released, the sources said.

Meanwhile, former prime minister Surya Bahadur Thapa Monday accused Nepal's local administrations of blatant interference in a forthcoming general election and said it would make a farce of the May 12 polls. In a statement released here, Mr. Thapa said that local officials were openly interfering in a bid to ensure victory for official candidates in defiance of the declared desire of King Birendra for free, fair and peaceful elections. He particularly accused officials in his own home constituency of harassment of voters.

Mr. Thapa conducted the first general elections to be held in Nepal's 25-year-old partyless Panchayat system in 1981, and is campaigning for re-election in his home constituency, Dhankuta District. He lost the prime ministership to Lokendra Bahadur Chand in 1983 after a vote of no confidence in the national Panchayat.

'Terrorists' Arriving From India Arrested

BK051446 Katmandu External Service in English 1415 GMT 5 May 86

[Text] According to a spokesman of the Home Ministry, the police have arrested some terrorists with explosives in their possession who entered into the country from India. Police alertness to maintaining law and order in the country has succeeded in foiling the designs of these terrorists. The terrorists, under arrest, have testified that they had been sent by the terrorist (? Ram Radhe Prasad) gang. It may be recalled that the same gang was involved in the bomb explosions in different parts of the country on 20 June 1985. The explosive devices in police custody are also of the same [word indistinct]. Legal action is being taken in special courts against the perpetrators of the crime committed on 20 June 1985. Those arrested recently are also under investigation.

Khamene'i Urges IRGC To Be Above Politics*LD041843 Tehran IRNA in English 1830 GMT 4 May 86*

[Text] Tehran, May 4, IRNA — President 'Ali Khamene'i said here Sunday that the Islamic Republic needs permanent God-fearing forces to preserve the Islamic revolution against the enemy. The Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps (IRGC) should be this force, he added.

In a meeting with officials in charge of the politico-ideological training of the IRGC personnel, Khamene'i urged them to take all necessary precautions to ensure that the IRGC does not deviate morally nor politically from its role as the vanguard of the revolution, otherwise, he said, the ensuing rot will undermine the territorial integrity of the country and above all Islam.

The president furthermore advised the IRGC's mentors to make certain that the quality of the guards' education was consistent with the pure and revolutionary goals of the Islamic revolution, and that under no circumstances should they slacken in their task of constantly upgrading their consciousness-raising instructions to IRGC personnel.

The IRGC personnel, Khamene'i said, should remain aloof from political parties and constant vigilance should be exercised against infiltration of deviant ideologies and enemy agents, the president noted.

Leaders Speak at War Information Seminar 5 May**Hashemi-Rafsanjani on War Progress***LD051245 Tehran IRNA in English 1120 GMT 5 May 86*

[Text] Tehran, May 5, IRNA — Majlis speaker Hojjat ol-Eslam Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani stressed here Monday that the real intention of the Baghdad regime in imposing the war on Iran should be exposed to the world. Hashemi-Rafsanjani was speaking to a group of officials, including head of the War Information Headquarters Dr. Kamal Kharrazi and a number of governors general currently attending here a seminar of provincial committees of the War Information Headquarters.

He said that the war was imposed by Iraq upon the agreement of both the East and the West to crush the Islamic Revolution of Iran. The Majlis speaker noted that except for a handful number of people the Iraqi Ba'th party had not been known by others, adding that the War Information Headquarters should take measures to reveal the nature of the Baghdad regime.

Stressing that the Islamic Republic of Iran was engaged in a defensive war, Hashemi-Rafsanjani said that Iran should advance ahead until the survival of the revolution is guaranteed. He rejected ceasefire with Iraq and said that the Iraqi regime and its supporters which now in a position of weakness would take advantage of the truce to reinforce the Iraqi forces and prepare for a new attack against Iran.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani who is also Imam Khomeyni's representative to the Supreme Defence council referred to a letter from an Iranian dentist in the U.S. who had expressed willingness to come

to Iran to go to the fronts following the dispatch of a number of other dentists to the battle fields. He said that such an action indicated the suitable impact of the braveries of the Islamic forces of Iran upon the world public opinion.

On the suppression of a recent Iraqi attack in Fakkeh region in southern front, Hashemi-Rafsanjani said that the Iraqi troops taking advantage of a vast plain and support of hundreds of tanks, launched an attack in the area which was crushed leaving thousands of casualties for the Iraqis. He called on the War Information Headquarters to encourage artists in various fields to show to the world braveries of the Muslim forces of Iran.

Musavi Emphasizes Economic Strength*LD031110 Tehran IRNA in English 1055 GMT 3 May 86*

[Text] Tehran, May 3, IRNA — Prime minister Hoseyn Musavi said here Saturday that despite all vicious propaganda during the past seven years on Iran's alleged economic bankruptcy, the country was able to run wheels of its economy without receiving any loan from outside. All these economic hardships and bottlenecks would further strengthen the Islamic Republic of Iran in reaching self-sufficiency.

The prime minister was speaking at the inaugural session of a three-day nationwide seminar of the officials of war information committees, also attended by head of the War Information Headquarters Dr. Kamal Kharrazi. The prime minister stressed that the Iraqi-imposed war was the prime issue of the Islamic Republic of Iran and, therefore, all propaganda activities should be directed to this point.

Reiterating that hardships of the post-revolution era have made the Islamic republic of Iran stronger, Prime Minister Musavi assured that the country was also ready to confront the problem of decline in the price of oil during the current year. Meanwhile, Dr. Kharrazi referred to the role people played in the continuation of the war and said that the seminar will discuss various dimensions of the war to achieve a suitable coordination.

Musavi: Domestic Production Can Lessen Dependence*LD042122 Tehran IRNA in English 1310 GMT 4 May 86*

[Text] Tehran, May 4, IRNA — Prime Minister Hoseyn Musavi said here Sunday that in order to develop the industry, Iran should encourage domestic mass production, although it may be sometimes of low quality. Otherwise, he said, the country could not cut its dependence on foreign nations. He said "when we produce plain good with our own means, it will be in the interests of the country that Iranian people prefer that domestically-made good to a foreign luxury one."

The prime minister made the statements in the Sunday session of the cabinet during which a report on plans of the Ministry of Heavy Industries was given. It is necessary that Iran relies on its own workers and experts to maintain its independence, Musavi said, and Iranian people should avoid consuming imported commodities. Musavi said: "We should rely on domestic capital investments, work and production and regulate our consumption

with our production capacity."

Economy Reducing Dependence on Oil Revenue

LD051356 Tehran IRNA in English 1300 GMT 5 May 86

[Text] Tehran, May 5, IRNA — Minister of Economic and Financial Affairs Mohammad Javad Irvani said he Monday that the Islamic Republic of Iran could gradually cut its dependence on oil revenue with better knowledge of its taxation capacity. He was speaking in the opening day of a three-day seminar on taxation, attended by a number of taxation officials and professors from universities and theological schools. On the objectives of the seminar, Irvani said it was held to review issue of taxes so as to provide a correct taxation program for the country. Tax incomes should provide 80 to 90 percent of the country's current expenses while oil revenue must be spent on development plans, he said.

The economic and financial minister said that Iran's tax revenue last year, ending 21 March, had a 14-percent increase in comparison with the previous year but provided only 39 percent of the country's annual budget. In 1976, tax incomes provided only 20 percent of the country's budget, an indication of the former regime's dependence on oil revenue and its negligence towards the role of taxes, Irvani said. He said the government's oil income was 44 percent of its total revenue last year. He expressed hope that the government's dependence on oil revenue would decrease as much as possible.

\$900 Million Development Allocation Announced

LD021634 Tehran IRNA in English 1535 GMT 2 May 86

[Text] Arak, Central Prov., May 2 IRNA — The Majlis (parliament) has allocated an extra dlr. 900 million of foreign exchange to ministries and executive bodies for the current Iranian year (started March 1986) according to Minister of Industries Gholamreza Shafe'i here Thursday. Shafe'i said apart from their current foreign exchange budget, the ministries can use this extra money to implement ongoing development projects.

Referring to oil price conspiracy led by the U.S., the minister said that reduced foreign currency revenues would accelerate the country's goal to achieve economic independence and that Iranian manpower cannot help but become more imaginatively industrious in their endeavor to do so. The minister said: "We should increase our innovative capability with greater exploitation of our strategic reserves and in the machine industries sector." He added that the country's reduced foreign currency earnings was a blessing disguised to pursue policies more compatible with the basic needs of the country. Machinery and heavy industries should expand in order to serve the military industries whose role it is to fight against the big powers and support the oppressed nations, said the minister.

The minister arrived here Thursday for a one-day visit. He inspected several production units in the city.

Amendments to Presidential Duties Discussed

LD041530 Tehran IRNA in English 1105 GMT 4 May 86

[Text] Tehran, May 4, IRNA — The Majlis, in its open session presided over by Hojjat ol-Islam Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani Sunday morning, continued its deliberations on defining the scope of responsibilities and authority of the president.

The first pre-agenda speaker Mohammad Nabavi from Bushehr, said that lackey reactionary regimes of the region by supporting the Iraqi regime have been committed crime against Muslim Iraqi people. Furthermore, he added, the indifference of these lackey regimes towards the Palestinian cause and Zionist aggression in Lebanon encouraged the U.S. to attack Libya.

The next speaker, Ibrahim Esrafilian of Tehran, castigated claims of Western circles on the alleged violation of human rights in Iran. He said that those so-called human rights advocates should explain their silence towards massacre of coloured people in Britain only on charges of being black.

The Majlis then approved a number of articles of the draft amendment on president's responsibilities.

Commentary on Power Shift in Afghanistan Reported

Report on Editorial

GF051517 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1200 GMT 5 May 86

[From the press review]

[Text] According to the news agencies, it was announced in Moscow yesterday that Babrak Karmal, the head of the Afghanistan ruling regime supported by the Soviet Union, has resigned from his post. The newspaper *JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI*, in its editorial today entitled "The Reshuffle of Pawns in Kabul — a Sign of the Soviet Defeat in Afghanistan" discussed Babrak Karmal's resignation, which we invite you to hear in this segment of the program:

The newspaper *JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI* writes: Finally, after a month of arcane consultations, political explanations, and propagandistic moves, it transpired yesterday that Moscow has removed Babrak Karmal and has appointed another pawn in his place. This was announced by the official Soviet news agency citing Afghanistan's BAKHTAR NEWS AGENCY. In fact, quoting BAKHTAR as a source is nothing more than a propagandistic cover-up; the actual source of the news is TASS. This is because the Kabul rulers are appointed by Moscow and take orders from Moscow; the news of their removal or appointments is also announced by Moscow. In another words, from the Soviet point of view Afghanistan is nothing more than its subsidiary.

Early this year, Babrak Karmal, who was selected by Moscow in 1979 as the president of Afghanistan, suddenly disappeared from the public eye. It was announced that he was in Moscow for medical treatment. He was not even seen at the Marxist coup d'etat anniversary ceremonies last week in Kabul. Radio Kabul was forced to resort to falsehood to counteract rumors circulating

about his dismissal and announced that he is still the president of Afghanistan. A week had not yet elapsed following the dissemination of the Kabul government radio before Moscow announced that Karmal had been removed from his post.

It is not very surprising that Radio Kabul should allege that he is still president of Afghanistan, even just a few days before the official announcement of his dismissal, because all decisions about the present rulers of Afghanistan are made in Moscow. Those who control Radio Kabul are ignorant about what goes on behind the closed doors of the Kremlin. Whenever instructions from Moscow reach Kabul they are implemented by the Kabul rulers to the letter and are announced by the government-controlled Radio Kabul. In the news concerning the dismissal of Babrak Karmal, it was stated that he resigned from his post. In the Kremlin's political vocabulary, the term 'resignation' is not unusual for the removal of pawns. It is for this reason that most of the people familiar with the political problems of today's world know full well that for the Moscow echelons, the meaning of Karmal's resignation is that he no longer has the necessary power or usefulness to safeguard the Kremlin's interests in Afghanistan and should make way for another who has the ability for such an assignment.

The replacement of Karmal by Mohammad Najibullah, the former chief of Afghan's espionage organization KHAD and the announcement of his selection by the news agency TASS is something else which will be linked with concomitant events in Afghanistan in the future. In recent years, Moscow has shown a hasty inclination to impose the KGB's pawns on the Kremlin and to hand over the reins of government to them. At present, this tendency is evident in the Soviet policy concerning the rulers of Afghanistan. The galvanized activity of the directors of the Geneva conference with the simultaneous removal of Karmal for a compromise between the East and the West on the Afghan issue, is a point linked to Moscow's latest decision. The picture is not very clear whether Karmal has shown his own effete behavior by accepting such a compromise and has angered his Kremlin mentors or if Moscow feels at this stage that Karmal is too weak to implement the compromise according to the wishes of the Soviet Union.

In any case, two factors emerge clearly. First, Moscow, by its latest step, has once again instilled fear into the Marxists ruling in Afghanistan and has made it clear to them that they can only hope to remain on the seat of government in a hopeful and complacent manner if they prove to be useful and loyal pawns for Moscow. The other factor is that Moscow's decision is an indication of a fundamental instability in the Soviet policy in Afghanistan and that they have reached an impasse in that country. Hence, the people of Afghanistan will continue their holy crusade against the Soviet usurpers and their puppets until the complete deracination of the domination of the aggressors and the establishment of an Islamic government in Afghanistan in a more determined manner.

Tehran Radio Reaction

*ID051542 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1104 GMT
5 May 86*

["Moscow and a New Experience in Afghanistan" — station commentary]

[Excerpts] A week after the return of Babrak Karmal from Moscow to Kabul, news came that he had been dismissed as secretary general of the ruling communist party and General Najibullah had replaced him. The reason for the dismissal, as claimed by the party central committee, that Karmal has been inflicted with a respiratory illness, or possibly leukemia — an illness that took him to Moscow on an unexpected and surprising trip. Apparently, the seriousness of his condition did not allow him to take part in the parade on the seventieth anniversary of the April Revolution in Kabul last week.

Karmal's absence gave credence to the numerous rumors in political circles that he was no longer desirable to Kremlin officials. In fact, the source of these rumors was the tangible change over the past few months in Moscow's stance toward the Afghan Government and, in particular, toward the Geneva talks. During that time, reports received indicated that Karmal's trip to Moscow to attend the 27th CPSU Congress did not receive a great deal of attention from Kremlin media and officials. Apparently, Gorbachev did not receive Karmal, either.

At the same time, while Karmal was in Moscow, *PRAVDA*, the official organ of the Soviet Communist Party, began to criticize the course of action and the so-called democratization of affairs by the Afghan Government. It wrote that some of these actions have been carried out without considering the existing religious-tribal factors in Afghanistan. On the surface, the criticism was directed at Karmal as the head of government and the official responsible for implementing plans. He is held responsible for the lack of success in crushing the Muslim revolutionaries and the failure to establish strict order. But, in fact, as believed by some observers, the *PRAVDA* article was a sign of Moscow's wishes to reevaluate the Afghan issue after 7 years of tiresome war. After all, Karmal had an involved, day-to-day relationship with Moscow. Naturally, many of the plans and projects that *PRAVDA* now holds Karmal's government responsible for not implementing or incorrectly implementing, had previously been approved by Soviet experts and theoreticians. Therefore, the ground was prepared for some changes. It is clear that to that aim, the reshuffling of some pawns and the sacrificing of others are considered signs of the changes.

It was during this process that Najibullah — who is now occupying the post of secretary general of the Afghan Communist Party — was appointed head of the country's security organization, KHAD, after holding various posts in the party hierarchy. Najibullah, who is Pashtun and a medical doctor, played a special role in attracting some of the tribal chiefs toward the central government. He accomplished this during his term as head of KHAD in order to understand the various tribes in Afghanistan. He was relatively successful in the plan to create a rift among the tribes, especially separating them from the Muslim revolutionaries.

Under present conditions, while the Geneva talks on solving the

crisis in Afghanistan are reaching a sensitive stage, as stated by Cordovez, the UN representative, we must wait to see what decision the new party head will make to implement the unsuccessful policies of the past and to break the present deadlock, which has encumbered the Soviet and Afghan Governments. Taking into consideration the relentless resistance of the Muslim revolutionaries, continuing the policies of the past has so far yielded nothing for the Kremlin and its ally government in Afghanistan but compounded problems. The most obvious proof of this claim is the relatively high number of changes and reshuffles that every so often bring down an administration and replace it with another in Afghanistan.

SAIRI Conference Issues Communiqué 5 May
LD051809 Tehran IRNA in English 1605 GMT 5 May 86

[Text] Al-Faw, May 5, IRNA — The second general assembly of the sixth term of the Supreme Assembly of the Islamic Revolution of Iraq (SAIRI), held at SAIRI's headquarters in the liberated Iraqi oil-port city of Al-Faw, concluded its work here Monday, with the releasing of a resolution. The resolution reiterated that it was the legitimate right of the Islamic Republic of Iran to liberate the Al-Faw peninsula in order to punish the aggressor party (Iraqi regime), it also called on all Muslim Iraqi forces to deal severe blows to the Ba'thist regime of Saddam Husayn. The Supreme Assembly also called on its liberation forces increase their presence at the warfronts so that they along with Iranian Muslim combatants could free the Islamic country of Iraq from Ba'thist rule.

Iranian Muslim combatants liberated Iraq's Al-Faw peninsula in the "Val-Fajr-8" offensive launched on February 9. Also voiced in the resolution was support for the righteous struggle of Muslim Palestinian, Afghan, Egyptian and Lebanese nations. The recent U.S. attack on Libya was also denounced.

Sends Support Message to Khomeini
GF050651 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT 5 May 86

[Text] A message sent by the Supreme Assembly of Islamic Revolution in Iraq [SAIRI] to the office of the Imam of 'Ummah and the commander in chief of the armed forces announced their complete readiness to continue the struggle until the downfall of the ruling Iraqi regime as ordered by Imam Khomeini. According to a central news report from Ahvaz, part of this message, which was sent from a city in Khuzestan where SAIRI held its second general assembly in the sixth round, emphasized the armed struggle against the tyrant Iraqi regime. It also said: At the same time as the victories of the Islamic army in the Al-Faw region in which with the assistance of God we will find our way to sacred eternity in Iraq, SAIRI held its second conference of the sixth round named Labbayk ya-Imam in liberated lands. They again renewed their promise with Imam Khomeini, the leader of the revolution and the commander in chief of the armed forces, that they will defend the Islamic government with the last drop of their blood and will carry out the order of God: "Obey God, obey the prophet and those in authority." They will free the Iraqi land from the idolatrous and will take revenge for the blood

of martyrs and thousands of Iraqi prisoners from the tyrant Iraqi regime. This message also emphasized that SAIRI will carry out vast operations in the armed holy war and general mobilization.

According to the same report, yesterday at the second SAIRI assembly the activities of the various units of the administration committee regarding military, propaganda, and service activities were discussed and reviewed. During this session the importance of the armed holy war, establishing and equipping resistance bases, and the mobilization of Iraqi military forces against the Zionist Baghdad regime were emphasized as part of the future policies of SAIRI.

CIA Study of Islamic Movements Reported by Tehran
LD021303 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 2 May 86

[Text] The U.S. espionage organization, CIA, by employing research workers on Islamic problems in various world universities, is about to embark on research and studies with regard to Islamic movements throughout the world.

The magazine *MIDDLE EAST* in an article in its latest issue wrote: Robert M. Gates, deputy to William Casey, considered to be No. 2 in the CIA, has been entrusted with the responsibility of carrying out the CIA's new plan. The author of the article added: The 42 year old Robert Gates is the selfsame person who, during the inception of the Islamic Revolution in Iran, was a member of the U.S. National Security Council and at that time he exposed the CIA's weakness in forecasting Iranian events and the organization's inefficiency in studying the nature of the Islamic Revolution.

According to *MIDDLE EAST* the plan put forward by Gates is already being studied by the U.S. National Security Council. It is said that at present a number of Islamic research workers in certain universities have been employed by the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency, CIA. In this connection *MIDDLE EAST* refers to Dr Naddaf Safran, professor of Islamic Studies at Harvard University, who recently carried out new research on problems connected with Islamic movements for the benefit of the CIA.

Tehran Reports Change in Iraqi Army Command
LD031228 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 3 May 86

[Excerpt] Following the repeated defeats of the Iraqi 7th Army Corps [as heard] in the "Val-Fajr 8" operational theater and the inability of the corps commanders in confronting the Islamic forces, on Saddam's orders the corps's command has eventually been entrusted to Major General [as heard] Mahir 'Abd al-Rashid. IRNA reports that Major General Mahir 'Abd al-Rashid is the fifth officer to be appointed to command that disintegrated corps in less than 75 days.

Reportage on Combat Operations in War With Iraq**Communique No 2,461***LD051637 Tehran IRNA in English 1552 GMT 5 May 86*

[Text] Tehran, May 5, IRNA — Iranian Naval Forces inspected nine ships and oil tankers sailing under foreign flags around the Hormuz Strait Sunday but allowed them to continue their voyage after being satisfied that they were not carrying goods for the Iraqi regime, according to a military communique here Monday.

The Joint Staff Communique Number 2461 released Monday says that Iranian Gendarmerie Forces opened fire on Iraqi positions in Zobeydat and Bayat killing 10 Iraqi soldiers and demolishing several positions. Artillery duels and skirmishes between Iranian Muslim combatants and Iraqi troops continued sporadically in the southern fronts especially in Sharhani, says the communique.

In Hoseyniyeh, artillery fire of Muslim forces of Iran hit Iraqi tank units silencing their fire and halting their operations, says the communique. In Yabis and Nahr 'Anbar operational regions, the communique says, Iranian Muslim forces checked movements of Iraqi armoured units and engineering operations of enemy troops, they also carried out successful patrol missions in these fronts.

Iranian Muslim combatants continued their defensive operations and responded to Iraqi artillery fire in the northwestern and western fronts setting fire to parts of enemy positions in each front and killing or wounding a number of enemy soldiers, according to the military communique. Elsewhere the communique says, artillery fire of Islamic forces of Iran checked movements of enemy armoured units and disrupted their engineering operations in Panjwin. It also prevented Iraqi forces from bringing reinforcement in Sar Dasht.

Meanwhile, Iraqi long range artillery fire on Abadan in Khuzestan province damaged 18 houses and shops as well as one mosque in the city. Iranian artillery and helicopter fire of army aviation services pounded Iraqi armoured units in Fakkeh Sunday destroying four tanks and inflicting heavy. [incomplete sentence as received]

Six Iraqi Tanks Destroyed*LD051939 Tehran IRNA in English 1806 GMT 5 May 86*

[Text] Tehran, May 5, IRNA — Coordinated fire of the Iranian combatants Monday subjected on an Iraqi tank battalion in Fakkeh operational region and set fire to six enemy tanks, according to Khatem ol-Anbiya' joint army-IRGC headquarters. [sentence as received] A good amount of enemy hardware was also destroyed and a number of Iraqi soldiers were killed or wounded during the operation, the headquarters said.

DRA Blast Kills 12; Shots in Presidential Palace*LD051753 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 5 May 86*

[Text] The Central News Unit reports that 12 DRA party and state leaders were killed and 80 wounded by a bomb blast planted by Muslim Afghan revolutionaries on the parade grounds where the 7 April coup d'etat anniversary celebrations were held, in Mazar-e Sharif Province.

Also, according to a report from the bureau of the Muslim Afghan revolutionaries in New Delhi, since Babrak Karmal's return to Afghanistan, the occupying forces have been fully in charge of maintaining the security of Kabul with their own patrol units. Reports received from inside Afghanistan also indicate that 2 days before Babrak Karmal's so-called resignation, gunfire was heard from the presidential palace. The following day, Kabul airport was closed for 2 hours to allow Karmal to go to an unknown destination. But for some unexplained reasons, he failed to leave Kabul.

Reportage on Afghan Rebel Military Operations**Soviet Helicopter Gunship Downed***GF051535 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1430 GMT 5 May 86*

[Text] Afghan Muslim revolutionaries early this month downed a helicopter gunship of the joint Soviet-DRA forces in Qandahar Province. The Central News Unit in Islamabad has reported that the Afghan Muslim revolutionaries have also attacked joint Soviet-DRA forces positions in (Shah Jadi) in Zabol Province with rockets and light and medium weapons killing a number of these forces, capturing 12 Afghan Government soldiers, and taking 18 Kalashnikov rifles as booty.

Joint Soviet-Afghan Centers Hit*GF051632 Tehran International Service in Russian 1515 GMT 5 May 86*

[Text] During recent coordinated operations, the Afghan Muslim revolutionaries attacked 20 grouping centers of the joint occupation forces and forces of the regime ruling in Afghanistan.

According to a Central News Unit report, an office of KHAD —the intelligence organization of the Kabul regime —the party office in the (Chakhat) region, a television station, and the region's joint forces office were destroyed. A total of 45 troops were killed, and 15 were wounded.

The reports also stated that during these operations, the Afghan Muslim revolutionaries managed to capture 8 centers, 40 weapons, and a machine gun belonging to the joint occupation forces and forces of the regime of Karmal. Eight troops were captured.

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

7 MAY 1986

Iran-Iraq War

Iraqi planes raided southern Tehran 7 May, IRNA announced, noting that the city's oil refinery is located in the bombed area.

In other action, Iranian military camps in Musak, Marivan, Kalaleh, and Sardasht were subjected to Iraqi air raids 6 May, according to a communique broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio, which asserted that the Iranians sustained "massive" personnel and materiel losses. The communique also reported an Iraqi attack on a "very large maritime target" off the Iranian coast. On the other hand, a military spokesman cited by IRNA claimed that Iraq bombed "civilian areas" in Marivan twice, causing 15 casualties and much structural damage, and warned that Iran will respond to the Iraqi action. Iraqi planes also raided Baneh and Marivan 7 May, the agency reported.

Syrian President's Visit to Jordan

Reporting on President Hafiz al-Asad's departure from Jordan 6 May, Amman radio said the Syrian leader's talks with King Husayn covered ways to obtain a unified Arab stand to confront "all dangers facing the Arab nation," focusing on the need to adopt a coordinated Arab stand to hold a "successful and effective Arab summit" that will tackle all issues of interest to the Arab nation. The two leaders also reviewed ways to promote bilateral relations. The Jordanian information minister likewise told Radio Monte Carlo that Al-Asad and Husayn held "very important" discussions that dealt with "better coordination to convene an Arab summit." Earlier, the Amman daily *SAWT AL-SHA'B* viewed the talks as an attempt to "break the ice" in bilateral relations, stressing that the meeting should not be viewed as signalling any change in Jordanian and Syrian policies.

For Syria's part, a 7 May *TISHRIN* editorial cited by Damascus radio stressed the need for joint Arab action to confront Israel and the United States, adding that Syria will support "any joint Arab effort" in this regard. Israeli Prime Minister Shim'on Peres commented on the Al-Asad-Husayn talks in remarks cited by *THE JERUSALEM POST*, saying he does not expect Jordan to turn its back on Iraq or allow Syrian missiles on its soil.

Libya

JANA linked the explosions in Tokyo's subway system with Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhafi's earlier "incitement" of the Japanese people to disrupt the "conspiratorial" summit there. In further reaction to the summit's declaration on terrorism, a Foreign Liaison Bureau communique broadcast by Tripoli television condemned that statement's "hypocrisy" in calling Libya a "supporter" of U.S.-defined "terrorism," and maintained that the statement's reference to the Jamahiriyyah was a "deliberate" attempt to "justify" the U.S.-UK attack on Libya and to "pass

it off." In a message to the Arab League secretary general reported by Voice of Greater Arab Homeland radio, the Foreign Liaison Bureau secretary viewed the Tokyo summit statement on terrorism as a "grave escalation" of the U.S.-European-Japanese position, and implored the secretary general to take the "suitable measures," as defined in the Arab League Charter, to "combat" that "fierce attack." In other developments, Tripoli television aired what it alleged was the corpse of a U.S. airman shot down during the attack on Libya, washed up on the Libyan coast. JANA's political editor linked President Reagan's call for a boycott of Libyan oil with the Arab rulers' failure to act on the Jamahiriyyah's call to use Arab oil as a "weapon in their war against imperialism and Zionism," and asserted that those rulers failed to understand the importance of oil as a "strategic weapon."

Sudan

Al-Ummah National Party leader Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi was elected prime minister during the 6 May Constituent Assembly session, SUNA reported, noting that Al-Mahdi defeated rivals from the Islamic National Front and the Communist Party by a large margin. The Assembly chose its speaker from Al-Mahdi's party and also elected a 5-member State Council headed by Ahmad al-Mirghani, brother of Democratic Unionist Party leader Muhammad 'Uthman al-Mirghani. The State Council includes only one southerner, according to the agency, which noted earlier that the southern political parties walked out of the session for undisclosed reasons.

Lebanese President in Tunisia

President Amin al-Jumayyil arrived in Tunisia where he was greeted by President Habib Bourguiba and other officials, Beirut Radio reported. Earlier, in remarks broadcast by the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon, former President Camille Sham'un blamed the Syrians for a rocket attack which hit Halat Airport while Al-Jumayyil was boarding the plane there to fly to Tunisia. The recent opening of Halat Airport, in the Christian sector, has been criticized by Muslim leaders.

Palestinian Terrorism

Palestine Liberation Front leader Mahmud 'Abbas told NBC television 5 May that he is planning to carry out operations in the United States, Radio Monte Carlo reported.

In Israel, *THE JERUSALEM POST* revealed that police are holding 20 suspects in connection with a number of terrorist offenses including recent attacks on tourists in Jerusalem. The detainees are thought to be members of Colonel Sa'id Musa Muragha's organization.

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Najibullah Thanks Gorbachev for Congratulations

*LD061817 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1530 GMT
6 May 86*

[Text] The following message of thanks has been sent to Moscow by Comrade Najibullah, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee, addressed to Comrade M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee:

Dear Comrade Mikhail Sergeyevich, from the bottom of my heart I express gratitude for your best wishes on my election to the post of general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and for your high assessment of my activities for the victory of the April Revolution.

In this new and important position, relying on the support of the party and people, I will use all my energy to realize the fundamental policy of the PDPA for the achievement of fundamental socioeconomic transformations, defense of the independence, territorial integrity, and national sovereignty of Afghanistan against the counterrevolutionaries, imperialism, and regional reaction, for the consolidation and all-round broadening of cooperation with the Soviet Union and the socialist countries.

The PDPA and the Afghan people are profoundly grateful for the continuing internationalist assistance and support of the CPSU and the generous people of the USSR for revolutionary Afghanistan. We highly value this assistance and decisively express support for the Soviet Union's peaceful policy aimed at preventing nuclear catastrophe and achieving peace and consolidation of peace in the world, and the restoration of independence and independent progress of all people.

I earnestly state that the friendly relations and productive and all-round cooperation between our countries, will, in the future too, honestly serve the long-term interests of Afghanistan and the Soviet Union, peace and security in the region, and in the world.

I wish you dear Comrade Mikhail Sergeyevich, the CPSU, and all members of the great party of Lenin, further victories in implementing the formidable constructive duties raised in the 27th historic congress of the CPSU in the field of even further socioeconomic development of the USSR, in the struggle for peace, and in removing the nuclear danger.

With due respect,

[Signed] Najib, Kabul 6 May 1986

BBC Reports Tight Security As Karmal Ousted

*BK061307 London BBC World Service in English
1200 GMT 6 May 86*

[From the "Radio Newsreel" program]

[Text] The change of leadership in Afghanistan came after considerable speculation that President Babrak Karmal had fallen out of favor with the Soviet Union. But the authorities in Kabul went to great pains to emphasize that his replacement by the 39-year-old state security chief, Mr Najibullah, was because of ill health and not for any political or other reason. Reports

since then, however, suggest he was deposed. The Soviet authorities certainly took considerable precautions to ensure that the changeover did not lead to unrest. All key points, including Afghan Army barracks, were apparently guarded by Soviet troops with tanks. Alex Brodie reports from Islamabad:

[Begins Brodie recording] The story of 4 tense days in Kabul began on Thursday [1 May] with the reported return of Babrak Karmal from a still unexplained month's away in the Soviet Union. Early the following morning, 2 May, the main government and party buildings — where, it subsequently transpired, a meeting was being held of the Central Committee of ruling Communist Party — had been closed off. Western diplomatic sources in Islamabad, quoting reports from Kabul, say Soviet troops with tanks were in great evidence. Most of the Afghan soldiers were unarmed. The diplomats say Soviet troops also surrounded Afghan Army barracks and Radio Afghanistan, and Soviet tanks were positioned on most accessible hilltops, their guns pointing into the city. One diplomatic source said Soviet airborne troops took up positions guarding Soviet housing, the embassy, and a hospital. Another said tanks were outside the Ministry of the Interior, the headquarters of Gorbachev, whom the diplomats say is a the supporter of the Khalq [People's] faction of the ruling party and an opponent of the new party leader, Najibullah, who like his predecessor is from the Parcham [Flag] faction. There were no newspapers for this whole period and neither radio nor television gave any explanation until Sunday evening when the leadership change was announced. There appears to have been no resistance to the change at the top, though diplomatic sources say they have reports of some pro-Babrak Karmal demonstrations, including one by female students, after the change was announced. All were reported to have been swiftly broken up. Security was said to have relaxed by Monday — yesterday [5 May] — though there were still a large number of troops on the streets, but they were Afghans and once again armed. [end recording]

Revolutionary Council Discusses Karmal's Position

OW061053 Tokyo KYODO in English 1033 GMT 6 May 86

[Text] Islamabad, May 6 KYODO — Afghanistan's highest decision-making body, the 150-man Revolutionary Council, was in session till Monday in Kabul to "discuss the post of president." Western diplomatic sources said Tuesday. They indicated that President Babrak Karmal, who was stripped of his powerful position of Communist Party chief Sunday, might lose his ceremonial presidency also.

According to these sources, the Revolutionary Council meeting was being held at the "Arg Palace," official residence of the Afghan president, amid unprecedented security arrangements and it was not certain whether Karmal was present at the meeting. However, diplomats were positive that Karmal did not attend the party plenum meeting on Sunday which decided on his ouster as Communist Party boss.

Sources said ever since Babrak Karmal's return from Moscow last Thursday, there were indications in Kabul that something new was in the offing. Immediately after Karmal's return, security forces began closing off main sections of Kabul including the

Arg presidential palace, offices of the prime minister and Soviet Embassy. On Saturday, Soviet airborne troops and armor took up positions around the Mikroryon Soviet housing complex, Soviet hospital and Russian Embassy. Tanks were also stationed at the main entrance of the Bala Hisar fortress, though Kabul radio and TV gave no hint of what was happening.

When telex and telephone lines went out of order on Sunday, rumors swept Kabul that Karmal had died, but finally, after a three-day tense party plenum meeting, the announcement was made Sunday that Karmal had been replaced as party chief by security chief Najibollah.

U.S. Seeks 'To Disrupt' Geneva Talks

LD050855 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0433 GMT 5 May 86

[Text] Kabul, May 4, BAKHTAR — A political observer of BAKHTAR writes: R. Peak, US assistant under secretary of state, stated at one of the sessions of the House of Representatives of that country that Washington finances the undeclared war conducted by the Afghan counter-revolution against the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan. His statements are indicative of the fact that Washington strives to preclude the political solution of the situation around Afghanistan, and to carry on the sanguinary undeclared war against the DRA. The representative of the US Department of State persisted upon the promotion of effectiveness of so-called resistance of the cutthroat hands against the DRA. According to political and press observers of the world, the undeclared war against the DRA has been promoted to a high level, and President Ronald Reagan, and William Casey, chief of the CIA play the main role in this sphere.

With the announcement of more military assistance to the Afghan counter-revolution and providing of Stinger rockets to them, the Reagan administration proved that Washington does not want that the situation around Afghanistan be solved politically and peacefully while the Washington Administration supports by word the political solution of the situation around Afghanistan, in practice, it impudently announces more military assistance to the counter-revolutionaries.

In addition to providing Stinger rockets to the Afghan counter-revolution, the Washington administration furnishes over 470

million dollars military assistance to them in the current year. This collusion with the counter-revolutionary hands has caused the indignation and hatred of political circles of the world.

The statements of the representative of the US Department of State took place at such a time that talks between Afghanistan and Pakistan is being held in Geneva. The statements are indicative of the fact that the Reagan administration strive to disrupt the atmosphere of political talks between the two countries.

Provinces Add 'Deceived Patriots' to Forces

LD022157 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 2 May 86

[Text] One hundred and twenty-five deceived compatriots, who were linked to the Haraka-e Enqelab-e Eslami band and Gulbuddin band, recently joined the security forces in Jowzjan and Faryab Provinces. They brought their weapons and leaders, Balech Palawan, Qurban Palawan, and Rahim Palawan, taking advantages of the Revolutionary Council Presidium's amnesty decree and message and resolutions of Loya Jirga and High Jirga for Tribes.

By regretting their past, they pledged not to spare any patriotic efforts to defend the revolution's outcome and to struggle against the savage counterrevolutionary elements.

Riyadh: Mujahidin Kill 19 Officers in Qandahar

GF030613 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 0400 GMT 3 May 86

[Text] The Afghan mujahidin have announced that they launched a rocket attack on the city of Qandahar last Tuesday during the CPSU's festivals marking the eighth anniversary of the taking of power by the Communists. The attack killed 19 officers and Communist Party officials who were taking part in the festivals.

Western sources said that in retaliation for the mujahidin's attack, Soviet Air Force and artillery launched an attack against a number of Afghan villages, killing eight civilians and six mujahidin.

Ershad Addresses Nation on Election Eve
BK061649 Dhaka Domestic Service in English
 1530 GMT 6 May 86

[Text] The Jatiya Sangsad [parliament] elections tomorrow and the president says it will be a historic mandate for establishing democracy in the country. [sentence as heard] In an address to the nation on the eve of the parliamentary polls a short while ago, he said it will herald a strong national unity and create a [word indistinct] democratic consciousness and values among all strata of people. President Ershad said through this election the people are getting an opportunity to send their representatives to the national parliament who will enact laws and decide the fate of the nation. He said the political sagacity of our people is well known and they have never committed mistakes in taking right decisions. He expressed the hope that this time also the people will demonstrate their farsightedness and sagacity by giving their verdict in favor of honest, dedicated, patriotic and democratic-minded persons to reflect their hopes and aspirations in parliament.

The president said all necessary steps have already been taken to hold the elections in free, fair, and peaceful atmosphere. The entire administration has been playing an absolutely neutral role and will continue to do so for holding of the elections smoothly. President Ershad said the nation is aware of the circumstances that compelled him to take reins of administration 4 years ago. The present government has been able to prove that it is completely a different and exceptional type of martial-law government. It enjoyed the overwhelming support, cooperation, and goodwill of the people. Its prime objective was to achieve over-all welfare of the people and the country. The Constitution was not abrogated. Freedom of speech and press was not only upheld but was also ensured.

He said the present government at the same time has succeeded in giving the nation a new political, economic, and social direction. A new horizon of prospects and promises has been opened up. Epoch-making reforms were carried out in all wings of national life to erase the centuries-old ignominy and despair. The country now occupies a respectable position in the comity of nations. These successes were achieved as a result of the concerted efforts and striving of the people, the Armed Forces, and the civil administration.

President Ershad said this martial-law government is conscious of its sacred responsibility to restore to the people their democratic rights. He said the long-awaited and expected parliamen-

tary elections are the vindication of his pledge. The president conveyed good wishes to political parties and candidates who have demonstrated their sense of historic awareness and responsibility to the nation in making the process of transmission to democracy a success.

He said democracy makes the people conscious about their rights and responsibilities. Tolerance and respect for others' opinion are the fundamental (?core) of democratic norms. The country and the people are above a party and individual. Holding of the elections in a disciplined, peaceful manner is an acid test of democracy.

The president expressed his earnest belief that, with the cooperation of all irrespective of the opinion, the people will succeed in this test. President Ershad also expressed his gratitude to the Almighty Allah for his [word indistinct] mercy for enabling him to redeem the pledge given to the nation. He appealed to the people to prove once again that no victory is unattainable for a nation which is ever ready for any sacrifice for its independence and sovereignty.

Awami Chief Criticizes Country's Economic Policy
BK011605 Dhaka Domestic Service in English
 1530 GMT 1 May 86

[Text] The Awami League chief, Sheikh Hasina, has called upon the people to exercise their franchise judiciously to help establish a government of the people in the country. Addressing public meetings in Jessore and Khulna today, she criticized the present government's policy of disinvesting the nationalized industries. The Awami League chief alleged that the purchasing power of the people has gone down because of faulty economic policy of the government.

Foreign Secretary Appointed Envoy to India
BK291724 Dhaka Overseas Service in English
 1230 GMT 29 Apr 86

[Text] The Bangladesh Government has appointed the foreign secretary, Mr Faruq Ahmed Chowdhury, as the country's high commissioner to India. He is expected to take over his new assignment in New Delhi by the first week of June.

Bomb Explodes; Afghan 'Secret Agent' Suspected*BK061241 Hong Kong AFP in English 1230 GMT 6 May 86*

[Text] Islamabad, May 6 (AFP) — Six people were killed and 18 seriously injured in separate bomb blasts Tuesday in Pakistan's Northwest Frontier Province bordering Afghanistan, police said. An explosion in a passenger bus at Naguman village, 15 kilometers (nine miles) north of Peshawar, left four people dead and 16 injured, they said. An unofficial toll put the number of dead at seven. Police said they suspected the bomb was planted by an Afghan secret agent who had infiltrated the refugee community, as an Afghan was seen getting off the bus shortly before the blast. The second bomb was thrown by unknown person into a house at Darban village south of Peshawar overnight, killing two and injuring two, they said.

2 Killed, 13 Injured*BK061529 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 6 May 86*

[Text] Two women were killed and 13 others injured today in a bombing in a bus at the Naguman bus stop, 15 kilometers from Peshawar. The injured, including two children and seven women, were rushed to the hospital. The acting governor of Northwest Frontier Province, Mr Justice S. Osman Ali Shah, and Chief Minister Arbab Mohammad Jahangir Khan have expressed deep anguish and sorrow at this tragic incident and extended sympathy from to the bereaved families.

Geneva Indirect Talks on Afghanistan Considered*BK070547 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 7 May 86*

[Text] The seventh round of UN-sponsored indirect talks for a political settlement of the Afghanistan problem continued in Geneva for a second day yesterday. The UN secretary general's personal representative on Afghanistan, Mr Diego Cordovez, met with the Pakistan foreign minister, Sahabzada Yaqub Khan, and other members of the Pakistani delegation for about an hour. He also had a meeting with the Karmal administration's foreign minister, Shah Mohammad Dost, for approximately the same length of time. Later, Cordovez had another round of talks with the two parties and exchanged views with them on various alternative proposals made in the revised draft of the fourth instrument.

According to ASSOCIATED PRESS OF PAKISTAN, detailed discussions were held on the interim program for the withdrawal of Soviet forces from Afghanistan. The news agency says a discussion has been initiated now on every (?paragraph) of the nine sections of the fourth and the final instrument for the settlement pertaining to the timeframe for the withdrawal of Soviet forces from Afghanistan and associated matters.

According to APP, Pakistan first wants to have the date fixed soon for completing the withdrawal of Soviet forces from Afghanistan. Pakistan has reiterated its stand that there must be a simultaneous implementation of the three other instruments of the comprehensive agreement on foreign forces, international guarantees, noninterference, and return of refugees with dignity and safety.

It is understood that the Karmal administration's representative has suggested a prolonged and a vague timeframe for the withdrawal of Soviet forces although he is ready to resolve the date for beginning the pullout of Soviet forces from Afghanistan. According to APP, due to the unreasonable attitude of the Karmal administration's representative, there should not be great expectations for a comprehensive settlement during the current round of talks. A Pakistani correspondent said any agreement on three or four sections in the seventh round of talks in Geneva would be a big achievement.

Meanwhile, Pakistan has refused to make any comment on the leadership change in Afghanistan — which has the support of the Soviet Union — and its impact on the Geneva talks. According to the program, there should have been one more round of talks yesterday.

Afghan Mujahidin Explode Ammunition Depot; 8 Dead*BK061117 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 6 May 86*

[Text] Reports from Afghanistan say mujahidin killed eight Soviet troops when they blasted an ammunition depot of Soviet-Karmal troops in Samangan. According to delayed reports, the Soviet-Karmal forces launched an attack on mujahidin center near the border town of (Hom). The mujahidin, after fierce fighting, pushed the forces back. In another attack on a military post in Shinwar area of Nangarhar Province, the mujahidin killed a number of Soviet-Karmal troops and destroyed a tank.

NEPAL

AFP Reports on Arrest of Suspected Bombers

BK061556 Hong Kong AFP in English 1548 GMT 6 May 86

[Text] Katmandu, May 6 (AFP) — Sixteen people carrying bombs have been arrested in Nepal, official sources said here Tuesday.

Thirteen suspected terrorists were arrested Sunday [5 May] at Bhairahawa some 390 kilometers (240 miles) southwest of Katmandu and several powerful bombs were seized, the sources said.

After they had given statements, police arrested 3 other people in Katmandu Sunday.

The government-controlled radio and television stations said in a newflash Tuesday that members of an anti-monarchist group led by Ram Raja Prasad Singh had been arrested, but gave no further details.

Police believed that the 16 people arrested had been planning to disrupt general elections scheduled for Monday.

Suspects arrested after several bomb attacks in the Terai region bordering India's Bihar State in March had reportedly told police that a series of bombings was planned to protest the holding of elections under the 25 year-old partyless Panchayat system.

Masked groups attacked 3 police posts in Katmandu last week and scattered anti-election leaflets.

Following these attacks and Sunday's arrests, security police have been on duty day and night guarding public places in Katmandu, and late-night traffic is checked.

Two major opposition parties, which are both banned, have called for a boycott of the polls.

Ram Raja Prasad Singh claimed responsibility for a series of bomb attacks in June which left at least 8 people dead.

More than 50 people are currently on trial in connection with the bombings.

SRI LANKA

Fifteen Reported Dead in Colombo Explosion

BK070508 Hong Kong AFP in English 0505 GMT 7 May 86

[Text] Colombo, May 7 (AFP) — An explosion rocked the heart of Colombo's commercial district Wednesday, with witnesses saying that at least 15 people were feared dead and as many as 50 wounded.

There was no official toll immediately available after the blast, which damaged an old building of the Telecommunications and Telegraph Department.

But one news photographer at the scene said that at least 15 people appeared to have died in the explosion. "I helped pull some of them out from under the debris," he said.

Witnesses said that at least 30 people, including many women, were injured in the explosion. Some put the number of casualties at about 50, based on the people seen streaming out of the damaged building.

TELO Leader Killed by Rival Tamil Group

BK061532 Hong Kong AFP in English 1528 GMT 6 May 86

[Text] Colombo, May 6 (AFP) — The leader of a militant Tamil separatist group was killed Tuesday [6 May] in northern Sri Lanka by a rival militant group, local residents said.

The leader of the Tamil Eelam Liberation Organisation (TELO), Sri Sabaratnam, was killed in the village of Kondavi in the Jaffna peninsula by members of the rival hardline Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE), residents said. There was no immediate official confirmation of the report.

(In Madras, a TELO spokesman said Tuesday that LTTE members had shot dead Mr. Sabaratnam in Jaffna Monday [5 May].)

(The spokesman said that the TELO leader had been killed at a camp belonging to the Eelam People's Revolutionary Liberation Front (EPRLF), a third militant Tamil group.)

Last week, the LTTE attacked the TELO, destroying 15 of its bases in the Jaffna peninsula and killing more than 100 TELO members, official sources said. Some 25 LTTE members also died.

The LTTE and TELO had blamed each other for the eruption of the battle, which ended Saturday [3 May].

(Mr. Sabaratnam had gone underground after the TELO hideout in the island's Kalliyankadu town was besieged by the rival group's fighters in what a TELO spokesman had called a "well-planned plot" to liquidate the militant leader, the TELO spokesman said in Madras.

(The LTTE Tigers were jealous of the TELO's "growing popularity" with Indian authorities, the spokesman had earlier told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE, and were determined to assassinate Mr. Sabaratnam.

(The LTTE said the TELO was upset by the overwhelming support given by the people of the Tamil-dominated Jaffna region to the LTTE.

(The TELO was the only one of 21 Tamil separatist groups to enjoy official Indian patronage, observers said in Madras.)

A section of Sri Lanka's 2.5 million strong Tamil minority has been waging a frequently violent campaign for a separate state in the north and east, complaining of discrimination by the Sinhala majority. India has been acting as mediator to try to reach a negotiated settlement in Sri Lanka.

Death Confirmed

BK070453 Hong Kong AFP in English 0444 GMT 7 May 86

[Excerpt] Colombo, May 7 (AFP) — The leader of a Tamil separatist group was shot to death on Tuesday [6 May] by rival militants in northern Sri Lanka, official sources confirmed today. Sri Sabaratnam, the leader of the Tamil Eelam Liberation Organisation (TELO), was killed by members of the hardline group, Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) who then burned his body, the sources said.

Official spokesmen for both TELO and the LTTE have denied reports of Mr Sabaratnam's death.

But intelligence sources told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE that the TELO leader, nicknamed "Tall Sri," was killed at a tobacco plantation in the village of Kondavi in the Jaffna peninsula.

The sources said that an LTTE "hit squad" was led to Mr Sabaratnam's hideout by his former second-in-command, identified as "Mohan," who was captured by the LTTE and forced to reveal his leader's whereabouts.

The TELO leader, surprised in his sleep, was hit with a hail of gunfire after he stepped out of his hiding place with his hands held high, the sources said. An unidentified lieutenant of Mr Sabaratnam's was also killed, they said.

The rival LTTE had been searching for Mr Sabaratnam since a factional war erupted between the two groups early last week. At least 150 people, including more than 100 TELO members and 25 LTTE militants, have died in six days of fighting, official sources said.

Delhi Reports Death

*BK070344 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0240 GMT 7 May 86*

[Text] In Sri Lanka, the leader of the Tamil militant group, Mr Sabaratnam, and more than 20 other supporters were killed

yesterday in the continuing conflict between rival militant groups in the northern part of the island. Clashes have been continuing between two Tamil militant groups for the last 10 days.

President Jayewardene has said that if the government (comes to an) agreement on the ethnic issue it will be implemented at any cost.

Addressing the government parliamentary group in Colombo he said there is a difference of opinion in reaching an accord on the ethnic issue because of the demand for amalgamation of provincial councils.

Intruder Dressed As Pilot Arrested at Airport

*BK061135 Colombo International Service in English
1045 GMT 6 May 86*

[Text] Barely 48 hours after the explosion on board Air Lanka's Tristar jet, security at Colombo airport was breached once again yesterday when an intruder in a pilot uniform walked into the Air Lanka workshop.

The man, who was identified as (Sachitanand Senamutthu Kumaraswamy), was apprehended and handed over to CID [Criminal Investigation Department] detectives yesterday.

Two Air Lanka employees of the airport alleged to have aided the suspect had also been taken in for questioning.

The suspect, (Kumaraswamy), a resident of Colombo, is known to have told detectives that he had been a frequent visitor to the airport and had also taken photographs. Educated at a leading school in the Colombo suburb, the suspect had a student pilot license and a complete Air Lanka pilot uniform.

The Criminal Investigation Department or CID is attempting to ascertain whether this suspect had any connection in Saturday's [3 May] bomb blast.

This is the first arrest made by the CID since the Bomb explosion on Saturday [3 May]

Iraqi Planes Hit Downtown Tehran

LD070821 Tehran IRNA in English 0815 GMT 7 May 86

[Text] Tehran, May 7, IRNA — Iraqi planes violated the airspace of Tehran Wednesday morning and hit a point in downtown city.

The attack in southern Tehran took place at about 11:10 local time (07:40 GMT) and Tehran radio sounded alert siren. Soon afterwards the situation returned to normal.

The last Iraqi air raid on Tehran was carried out last year on Al-Quds Day (June 14) following a series of air raids on Iranian cities.

There were no immediate reports on possible casualties or damage.

Refinery in Area of Bombing

LD070939 Tehran IRNA in English 0931 GMT 7 May 86

[Text] Tehran, May 7, IRNA — Invading Iraqi planes violated the airspace in the southern suburb of Tehran and hit an area at about 07:40 GMT Wednesday morning. A thick smoke welled into the air subsequently but there were no immediate reports on the exact location of the attack or possible casualties or damage. The Tehran refinery is located in the bombed area.

Iraq last Tuesday bombarded residential areas in two areas in Bakhtaran Province in the west of the country leaving a number of civilian casualties.

Simultaneously with a visit to the bombed areas in Bakhtaran by a U.N. team of experts, Iraqi planes twice bombed the Kurdish town of Marivan in Kurdistan Province Tuesday martyring and wounding 15 people.

Following renewed Iraqi atrocities, the War Information Headquarters of the Supreme Defence Council warned the Baghdad regime against retaliation. It said Iran's Islamic combatants will not leave these inhuman Iraqi crimes unanswered.

Tehran Notes Karmal's 'Dismissal' From Party Post

LD051316 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 5 May 86

[Text] Twenty-four hours before the start of the seventh round of talks on Afghanistan in Geneva — which will start today with the participation of the foreign ministers of Pakistan and the Kabul regime, under the supervision of the representative of the UN secretary-general — Kabul radio announced the dismissal of Babrak Karmal from the leadership of the Marxist regime of Afghanistan. The radio added: Karmal will remain as the head of the ruling Revolutionary Council.

Karmal, who had been in Moscow for the past 2 months on an unofficial visit, returned to Kabul a few days ago. He was dismissed from his post yesterday. According to report received from Kabul, the dismissal of Babrak Karmal, who came to power

on 27 December 1979, simultaneous with the military invasion of more than 100,000 Soviet troops, his illness was announced. [sentence as heard]

The report adds: Following the dismissal of Babrak Karmal, another member of the Central Committee of the ruling party, Najibullah — former head of the Kabul regime's espionage organization, KHAD — has been appointed Karmal's successor.

Informed sources believe that Kremlin officials played an effective role in the dismissal of Babrak Karmal from the leadership of the Kabul regime.

Meanwhile, in his first speech, following his appointment as the new head of the Kabul regime, Najibullah called for the strengthening of the regime's armed forces and the expansion of relations with the Soviet Union.

It should be pointed out that some time ago, Soviet press started a campaign of tacit criticism of Karmal. Following his unexpected trip to Moscow, rumors of his possible dismissal were spread. On the other hand, the dismissal of Babrak Karmal after 6 years, 8 months and 9 days, as the head of the puppet regime of Kabul, on the threshold of the seventh round of talks on Afghanistan, in Geneva, shows that with this action the Soviet Union seeks a political solution to the issue of Afghanistan, provided a Marxist regime remains in power in Afghanistan.

President Khamene'i Castigates Tokyo Summit

LD061618 Tehran IRNA in English 1542 GMT 6 May 86

[Text] Tehran, May 6, IRNA — President 'Ali Khamene'i Tuesday castigated the Tokyo summit meet of the seven heads of states of major industrialized countries for their condemnation of Libya, saying "why do they not condemn the Reagan administration if they want to denounce terrorism." Asked the president, "in accordance with which international regulation does the U.S. attack a small country like Libya with over one hundred war planes dropping bombs on Libyan people as well as foreign embassies in an attempt to kill a person (Libyan leader)?"

He made the remarks in a meeting with officials of civil aviation organization during which he also said that the decision of the Tokyo summitters to condemn Libya was based on a policy of bullying. The United Nations and its related organizations including Amnesty International and the organization for human rights remained silent vis-a-vis the U.S. aggression against Libya because such bodies never attack the interests of the developing nations into consideration. "They are afraid of the neo-colonialist powers," he said. Khamene'i, who is also head of the Supreme Defence Council, denounced the U.S. for its history of interference in Latin America and the Third World, saying that the Tokyo resolution in all honesty should have named the U.S. and Reagan as the most hated supporters and users of terrorism in the world.

The staff of the civil aviation organization (CAO) also donated a total of rials 38 billion (about dollars 47,000) for the war fronts. Khamene'i furthermore lauded the CAO staffers for their contribution to the war fronts of the Iraqi imposed war.

In another meeting with a group of security officials of the Islamic Revolution's Guard Corps (IRGC) Tuesday, the president urged the solidarity of the oppressed world nations against global arrogance. He said the resolution of the Tokyo summit showed their hastiness and that they were so vulnerable despite all their equipments. The president said the resolution should have condemned the U.S. and Reagan because they attacked Grenada, supplied arms to Nicaragua's counterrevolutionaries and helped the ugliest terrorists of the world. "France qualifies as a terrorist for giving refuge to (Iranian) counterrevolutionaries and for aiding them," he said, "and likewise America which aids and abets the torture against the Palestinian nation and for supporting the Zionist regime and its leaders who are among the world's most disgraceful figures."

Elsewhere in his speech, the president stressed that the role of the IRGC security officials was very sensitive and delicate. He further praised their significant role at the IRGC and their outstanding services at the operational regions.

Khamene'i Meets With Broadcasting Officials

LD061028 Tehran IRNA in English 0625 GMT 6 May 86

[Text] Tehran, 6 May IRNA — President 'Ali Khamene'i here Monday received members of the supervising council of the Islamic Republic of Iran Broadcasting (IRIB) accompanied by the managing director of the organization, Mohammad Hashemi. During the meeting the president was informed of the programs and problems of the IRIB. President Khamene'i called for greater efforts to further improve Islamic and revolutionary quality of radio and TV programs and talked about their crucial role in the society. He also referred to the importance of training committed specialists for radio and television.

Musavi Discusses Taxation, Economic Independence

LD061259 Tehran IRNA in English 1037 GMT 6 May 86

[Text] Tehran, May 6, IRNA — Prime Minister Hoseyn Musavi said here Tuesday that Iran's policy was not based on fearing from or reconciling with the big powers. Rather, he stressed, the neither East nor West policy of the Islamic Republic of Iran relied on determination of the people. Speaking at the second session of the seminar on taxing policies of the country, the prime minister referred to the achievement of economic independence.

To this end, he added, the country should rid itself of being dependent on oil revenues and further rely on non-oil products. He said that it was at his point where the importance of taxation becomes clear. The prime minister said that the constitutional law of the Islamic Republic of Iran strived to remove imbalances and to this end taxation is one of the most effective measures. The seminar will continue its work Wednesday morning and afternoon.

Deputy Foreign Minister Leaves for Sweden

LD051449 Tehran IRNA in English 1420 GMT 5 May 86

[Text] Tehran, May 5, IRNA — Political Deputy Foreign Minister Hoseyn Sheykh ol-Eslam departed for Sweden Sunday night for an official visit at the invitation of the Swedish Foreign Ministry. Expansion of relations between Iran and northern European countries will figure prominently in the talks. The deputy foreign minister will meet Swedish premier and foreign minister in addition to others and will discuss promotion of Tehran-Stockholm trade exchanges and international cooperation. Sweden is among those countries which have adopted logical stances against Iraq's infringement of international conventions and laws in the course of the Iraqi-imposed war.

In the continuation of his tour, Sheykh ol-Eslam will visit Hungary in response to a visit by his Hungarian counterpart Gabor Nagy to Tehran last November. He will discuss the expansion of Tehran-Budapest relations and international issues with Hungarian officials.

SDR Minister on Results of Tehran Visit

GF070646 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT 7 May 86

[Excerpts] Seyyed Ahmad Batal, education minister of the Saharan Arab Democratic Republic [SDR], now visiting our country, commented on the aim of his visit to Iran. He said: Our visit to Iran is part of the traditional exchange of visits between officials of the Iranian and SDR revolutions and symbolizes the good relations existing between them, along with the solidarity and brotherhood that stems from their revolutionary ideals. This visit has served to further expand relations between our two countries in the fields of education, as education is the basis for preparing youth to value the ideals of Jihad and God in their struggle against satans and oppressors.

The SDR education minister said: We have felt in this visit the power of the Islamic revolution and the real changes that it has brought about in this country. We believe that this visit will have deep effects in relations between our two revolutions.

The minister said the SDR Education Ministry is a spearhead for struggle against the satanic powers, the oppressors, and the king of Morocco. Our nation has suffered much under the oppression of King Hassan II of Morocco.

The education minister, commenting on Iraqi aggression against Iran, said: When the Islamic revolution succeeded in Iran the imperialists persuaded the Iraqi regime to carry out its dastardly attack on the Islamic revolution in order to check the spread of the revolution to other Islamic countries. We, as we have said before, condemn this aggression against the sovereignty of the Iranian nation and its revolution.

Referring to the U.S. aggression against Libya and the failure of the Arab foreign ministers' conference in Morocco, he said: The savage U.S. attack against Libya was an illegal act and violated international law and traditions.

Commenting on cooperation in the field of education between Iran and the SDR, he said: Cooperation in this field is progressive and we hope that this visit will result in greater and more rewarding cooperation between our two countries.

Concludes Visit

GF070718 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 7 May 86

[Text] Mr Seyyed Ahmad Batal, education minister of the Saharan Arab Democratic Republic, left Tehran today following several days of meetings with Iranian officials. He was seen off by Education Minister Akrami. Before leaving, Mr Seyyed Ahmad Batal, while reviewing his visit to Iran, said his visit was successful. He expressed the hope that relations between the two countries will further expand.

Turkish Consular Official Arrives in Tehran

GF070652 Tehran International Service in Turkish 1830 GMT 6 May 86

[Text] Recep Eryan, director general of the Turkish Ministry of Foreign Affairs Consular Affairs Department, arrived in Tehran yesterday at the head of a delegation of experts from the ministries of foreign affairs, interior, and justice. The visit has been organized at the invitation of the director general of the Iranian Ministry of Foreign Affairs Consular Affairs Department. The accommodation and [words indistinct] of students will be discussed during the visit.

Iran, Zimbabwe Expand Trade Relations

LD021716 Tehran IRNA in English 1540 GMT 2 May 86

[Text] Tehran, May 2, IRNA — Zimbabwean commerce minister Oliver Munyaradzi Thursday lauded the Islamic Republic for its efforts to promote and expand trade with the Third World countries. In a meeting with a visiting Iranian delegation headed by 'Ali Fathali, the head of Iran's foodstuff procurement and distribution center, in Harare Thursday, the Zimbabwean commerce minister announced his country's preparedness to expand relations with the Islamic Republic of Iran. At the meeting, the two sides also discussed the volume of trade between the two countries and Iran agreed to import tea and corn from Zimbabwe.

The visit followed an official visit by Iran's President 'Ali Khamene'i to Harare and recent talks between Zimbabwean and Iranian foreign ministers in Tehran.

Industry Minister Receives Hungarian Envoy

LD281531 Tehran IRNA in English 1430 GMT 28 Apr 86

[Text] Tehran, April 28, IRNA — Hungarian Ambassador to Tehran Zsigmond Kazmer in a meeting with Industries Minister Gholamreza Shafe'i here Monday condemned the U.S. for having imposed economic and political pressure on Iran. At the meeting the Hungarian minister extended an invitation to Shafe'i

to visit Budapest and also announced that his country was prepared to cooperate with Iran in the fields of electronics, car, chemical, and pharmaceutical industrial.

In response, Shafe'i reiterated that from now on, Iran's economic relations with other countries would be based on extensive cooperation with them in building industrial projects rather than oil exports. He said Iran would try to expand its economic relations with Hungary on the basis of this principle. The industries minister also accepted the invitation to pay a visit to Hungary and said grounds for Tehran-Budapest cooperation in production of foodstuffs, minerals, chemical, and pharmaceutical items were good.

Heavy Industries Ministry Details Current Projects

LD061252 Tehran IRNA in English 0820 GMT 6 May 86

[Text] Tehran, 6 May IRNA — The Ministry of Heavy Industries in a report to the cabinet ministers session Monday outlined its current projects. The report listed projects of the ministry which are underway, including those to develop iron industries with a budget of 246 billion rials (about U.S. \$3 billion) to be completed in two years. The annual production capacity of the industry will be 55,000 tons of iron pipes, sheets and cords. By completion of the project the country will annually save U.S. \$110 million in foreign exchange.

The "Azarab" project, said to be one of the major industrial projects, producing machinery needed for refineries, power plants and cement and sugar industries, will become operational next year. According to the report the Azarab project to be put into test operation this year will create some 2,200 jobs and enable the country to save U.S. \$60 million in foreign exchange annually.

The project to expand "Hepco", engaged in production of heavy machineries such as bulldozers, lift trucks, loaders and devices needed in road building, mines, ports and irrigation projects will be completed in two years time. After becoming operational the project will annually save some U.S. \$125 million in foreign exchange, said the report.

The report also included "the Persian Gulf Ship Building Project", some 70 percent of work of which has been completed. The plant will manufacture two 20,000-ton ships, and repair some hundred and seven 70,000-ton ships a year. The project, to be completed in two years time, will annually save U.S. \$50 million in foreign exchange, the report added.

And finally, "Iran Casting Project," to produce 3,600 diesel engines, will be a big step in making the country self-sufficient in engines needed for trucks, buses and vans.

The ministry will actively participate in meeting the needs of the defence industries during the current year and will also make efforts to find markets for its surplus products in the countries of the region and Third World Countries, it concluded.

Death, Damage Toll in Flooding Evaluated*LD061307 Tehran IRNA in English 0915 GMT 6 May 86*

[Text] Tehran, May 6, IRNA — Some six tribesmen of Semirom, Esfahan Province, were killed and 150 others were injured due to the recent heavy rainfall, a spokesman for Esfahan Red Crescent Society said Tuesday. He added that so far 500 tribal families have been affected by the flood and 6,000 of their livestock which were killed in the flood. The spokesman said that since the roads to the flood-stricken areas are cut off relief operations are underway and first-aid is sent to the area by helicopters.

Meanwhile, over 30 houses and 45 hectares of farming lands were damaged in the city of Hamedan, Hamedan Province, due to heavy rainfall of the past few days. Twenty-six houses in Malayer, another city of the province, and 20 others in the nearby villages were damaged, four bridges were destroyed and 30 others were damaged.

End to Kuwait, Saudi Arabia Iraq Aid Demanded*LD061849 Tehran IRNA in English 1730 GMT 6 May 86*

[Text] Tehran, 6 May, IRNA — Head of the War Information Headquarters (WIH) Dr Kamal Kharrazi Tuesday warned those countries supporting the Ba'athist Iraqi regime to give up their support and not mar their relations with Iran for the criminal ruler Saddam Husayn. Speaking in a press conference here Tuesday, the WIH head said that Washington was forcing rulers of small Persian Gulf states to support the Iraqi regime. He said that U.S. was gravely concerned over the eventual overthrow of the Baghdad government and was pressuring Saudi Arabia and Kuwait to continue their assistance to Iraq, despite the fact that these states, especially Kuwait, were exposed to danger from the Ba'athist regime in Baghdad.

Intelligence leaks from Saudi-Kuwait meetings indicate that the two countries feel woefully menaced by the Baghdad government and the threat it poses to their sovereignty and security. He furthermore called on these states to cease their assistance to this dangerous enemy (Iraqi regime), and that they rest assured that the Islamic republic was merely trying to help them.

On issues of war propagation, the WIH head said that because Iran's defensive war was a popular one, the public should be mobilized and give a free hand to handle the issue independently of the media. "We should prove to the world that we are a steadfast nation that will never abandon our ideals," he said.

On the country's overseas propaganda facilities, Kharrazi described them as scant in comparison with those of the enemies of the Islamic Republic of Iran which boast facilities world-wide. He said the anti-Islamic Iran Western mass media routinely suppress news on Iranian achievements but rush to broadcast any claim of the Iraqi enemy.

Reportage on Combat Operations in War With Iraq**Communique No 2,462***LD061752 Tehran IRNA in English 1734 GMT 6 May 86*

[Text] Tehran, May 6, IRNA — Iranian jet fighters bombed Iraqi helicopter and troop sites in northern Ravanduz (Iraqi) at 10:13 hours Tuesday, inflicting substantial casualties and losses on them. Iranian planes all returned to their bases safely, according to a military communique. Communique number 2,462 of the Joint Staff Command of the Armed Forces says that Iranian gendarmerie forces opened fire on Iraqi troops in Zubaydat, Bayat and Abadan regions, killing or wounding 10 Iraqi soldiers and halting their engineering operations. The command says that artillery fire of Iranian Muslim combatants on Iraqi positions in the western fronts killed or wounded a number of enemy soldiers and destroyed six bunkers and observation posts of theirs.

Exchange of fire continued in the southern fronts raging somewhat more intensely in Fakkeh and Khorramshahr, the communique says, adding that Iranian artillery fire silenced fire of Iraqi tanks in Nim-Istgah-90 region and inflicted heavy casualties and losses on enemy troops. In Nahre-Anbar, the communique says, movements of Iraqi vehicles and tanks were checked.

The city of Abadan in Khuzestan Province was the target of Iraqi long-range artillery fire Monday as a result of which 13 houses and shops were damaged and one case of fire broke out which was immediately extinguished by firefighters.

Tanks, Ammunition Dumps Destroyed*LD061325 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 6 May 86*

[Central News Unit unidentified correspondent's report from the warfront in the Val-Fajr-8 operational theater — date not given; recorded]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. The heavy and accurate fire of the Islamic combatants frightens the enemy so much these days that he has no strength to perform any military action or operation. Thanks to the superior firepower of the Islamic forces on the strategic Al-Faw-Basra and Al-Faw-al-Bihar axes and the accurate artillery fire of the Guards Corps and Armed Forces against Iraqi equipment, eight enemy ammunition dumps were set alight and seven enemy tanks were destroyed. The brave combatants in the Val-Fajr-8 operational theatre destroyed a vehicle carrying Saddam's troops and inflicted heavy damage on a 122-mm gun, and anti-aircraft gun, and six vehicles. According to the latest reports received this morning, an enemy tank was destroyed on the Al-Faw-Umm Qasr by the Islamic combatants under the guidance of our eagle-eyed lookouts on the front lines.

Spokesman Denies Shelling Towns*LD061409 Tehran IRNA in English 1205 GMT 6 May 86*

[Text] Tehrah, May 6, IRNA — A spokesman for the War Information Headquarters (WIH) here Tuesday categorically

denied Iraqi claims alleging that Iran had shelled Iraqi border cities simultaneously with an inspection tour of the U.N. envoy of Iraqi bombed areas in Bakhtaran. The spokesman stressed that the Iraqi regime had made these baseless allegations at a time when the U.N. envoy was filing reports on its inhumane acts and in a bid to conceal its crimes. He called on the U.N. envoy to release his report on the bombardment of Rahimabad village and Va'avon township to inform public opinion on Iraqi crimes. He also called on the U.N. not to allow further infringement of international regulations by the Baghdad regime.

Kurds Liquidate Enemy Forces

LD061656 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 6 May 86

[Text] According the Central News Unit, reports received from Iraq indicate that the Iraqi Muslim Kurdish peshmerga, in the course of operations around (Bidarin) garrison, in the vicinity of (Gurehteh), north of Irbil Province, destroyed Iraqi armed forces positions and killed eight troops. After the attack, which took place late last Friday [2 May] evening, the Muslim peshmerga set fire to an enemy ammunition store near the town.

Iraqi Planes Attack Marivan

LD061603 Tehran IRNA in English 1555 GMT 6 May 86

[Text] Bakhtaran, May 6, IRNA — The Kurdish city of Marivan in Kordestan Province was attacked twice by invading Iraqi planes Tuesday leaving at least 15 civilian casualties. The first attack was launched at 11.22 hours local time (07:52 GMT) and 13 minutes later an area near the site of the first attack was bombarded again as relief activities to aid the victims were underway. Early reports said seven people have been martyred and eight others wounded. Some 30 houses and shops were also destroyed. These inhuman attacks coincided with the visit Tuesday of a U.N. team to two areas in Bakhtaran Province hit by Iraqi planes last Tuesday which left a number of civilian casualties.

Marivan, Baneh Casualties Total 21

LD071035 Tehran IRNA in English 1025 GMT 7 May 86

[Text] Sanandaj, Kurdistan Prov, Paril 7, IRNA — Iraqi fighters at 10:45 am local time (07:15 gmt) Wednesday raided residential areas in the western border city of Marivan, martyring at least one and injuring several others. Seven houses are reported to have been damaged. In a raid on the other Kurdish City of Baneh, at 11:45 local time (08:15 GMT), three civilians were martyred and 17 others injured. Ten homes are reported to have been damaged.

Retaliation Planned

LD061813 Tehran IRNA in English 1806 GMT 6 May 86

[Text] Tehran, May 6, IRNA — The War Information Headquarters [WIH] Tuesday warned that Iran's Islamic combatants will not leave unanswered Iraq's latest war crime against innocent civilians. It meanwhile invited the U.N. team of experts

stationed in Tehran to visit areas bombarded Tuesday by Iraqi war planes in Iran's western town of Marivan and file a report on this latest enemy atrocity. Civilian areas in the city were attacked twice Tuesday morning as a result of which 15 people were martyred and wounded and tens of shops and houses were destroyed.

Speaking to IRNA, a WIH spokesman expressed regret over the deadly silence of international circles vis-a-vis repeated Iraqi violations of the international conventions. He stressed that "our Islamic combatants will give due response to these desperate Iraqi moves." He said by attacking Marivan, the Baghdad regime not only breached the June 12, 1984 U.N.-sponsored agreement, but also "made fun of the international body's measures" regarding the IAR. "It therefore seems imperative for the U.N. to breach its silence vis-a-vis these Iraqi crimes in an attempt to preserve its prestige," the spokesman added. He also emphasized that the continuing reticence of international organizations towards Iraqi war crimes may compel the Islamic Republic to act directly and prevent the Iraqi forces from committing further crimes. He reminded, however, that the Islamic republic had always refrained from attacking civilian areas and displayed its good will to spare residential quarters from military attacks.

WIH Spokesman Promises Response

LD071122 Tehran IRNA in English 1118 GMT 7 May 86

[Text] Tehran, May 7 IRNA — "Adventurism of the Iraqi regime can only be stopped through a firm action," said the War Information Headquarters spokesman, here Wednesday following the latest Iraqi Air raids on the two Kurdish cities of Baneh and Marivan. The Islamic Republic of Iran, he added, "could no longer remain silent towards the Iraqi crimes against residential areas and has to retaliate." Contacted following the Wednesday morning Iraqi raid on Baneh and Marivan which martyred at least four civilians and injured scores of others, the WIH spokesman said that through such crimes and acts of adventurism the Iraqi regime was trying to make up for the blows inflicted on its morally weakened forces. Furthermore, he added, the Iraqi regime by resorting to such atrocities, wanted to satisfy its beastly nature. On the Wednesday morning Iraqi bombardment of the outskirts of Tehran as a result of which oil installations were slightly damaged, he said: "Such actions will never remain unanswered." In response to this desperate attempt of the enemy, he told IRNA "we will teach the Iraqi regime another lesson."

Clandestine Radio Reports Kurdish Fighting

GF061612 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian 1500 GMT 6 May 86

[Text] Kurdish armed combatants have attacked units of the Islamic Revolutionary Guards Corps [IRGC] in the Baneh-Sardasht area, killing more than 50 of them, taking others prisoner. According to a spokesman for the Kurdish Democratic Party, the armed Kurds staged a 'olitz attack on the IRGC center in the (Robat) and Baneh-Sardasht area, killing dozens of IRGC men and taking a large amount of weaponry as booty.